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COLONIAL TRADE.

If there is one thing more certain than another regarding the future export trade of the United Kingdom, it is that the population of our Empire beyond the seas will be our best customers. The national statistics prove this, the imperialistic spirit maintains it, and it behoves manufacturers and merchants to encourage it. The encouragement of colonial trade has been one of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST's strong points from the outset. Through our annual Colonial Issue we give an exceptional opportunity for advertisers to increase their business with the colonies. This issue will be on April 28, and, in addition to those who receive it weekly, it will be sent to all buyers of druggists' goods in India, Burmah, Straits Settlements, South Africa, China, Japan, and the West Indies. The publisher will give any inquirer information regarding this important issue.

Summary.

NEEDHAM'S (LTD) offer to buy Magor (Ltd) (p. 481).

A PATENT-MEDICINE CONGRESS is to be held in Paris this year (p. 456).

METHYL ANTHRANILATE has been found by Mr. E. J. Parry in oil of orange (p. 462).

WINE-LICENCES are now the order of the day. We report some new ones on p. 452.

A PORTRAIT of Mr. R. Lord Gifford, the militant pharmacist, is given on p. 458.

CINCHONA declined 5 per cent. at the monthly auctions in London on Tuesday (p. 487).

Liquid OTTO OF ORIS has been prepared, and is described by Mr. J. C. Stead on p. 473.

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL had little to do last week, and did not even mention the Companies Bill (p. 458).

THE MIDWIVES BILL has been read a second time, and referred to the Law Committee of the House of Commons (p. 469).

THE NAME of M. Durand, a French naval pharmacist, has been mentioned in connection with secret-selling to Britain (p. 456).

OUR DRAMATIC CRITIC has been to the Bloomsbury Theatre of Anxieties, and deals with the play in an "appreciation" on p. 482.

MR. GLYN-JONES wants to know who are to be the new Council candidates, his object being to get concerted action in regard to the election (p. 483).

CUTICULA CREAM is a name so like Cuticura that Mr. Justice Byrne has had no hesitation in restraining the makers of the cream from using the term (p. 479).

THE COMPANIES BILL stands where it did, but Clause 2 is being vigorously assailed by chemists and others. We print letters and petitions about it on p. 473.

THE MANX LEGISLATURE has adopted a company-clause which is substantially the Lord Chancellor's in principle but embraces the dispensing of prescriptions (p. 474).

BROKERS have had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding the contract-stamp. We report it on p. 485, also the text of the Finance Clause about the matter.

MR. E. M. HOLMES tried to answer the question, Why are drugs sometimes spurious? at the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society on Tuesday evening, and a good discussion followed (p. 471).

MR. JAMES WATT (Haddington), a former member of the Pharmaceutical Council, is dead; also Mr. Maltby (Lincoln), Mr. Burley (Edinburgh), and Mr. W. J. Sayers (Lewisham) (p. 463).

MR. A. H. ALLEN, in reporting on Yorkshire drugs, refers to the bad quality of camphorated oil, and complains that the Editor of the British Pharmacopoeia makes it difficult for analysts to use it as a standard (p. 452).

A QUIET TONE prevails in the drug and chemical market this week. Cod-liver oil is advancing, German camphor is lower, and opium is higher in Smyrna. The drug-sales held on Thursday were also characterised by the considerable supplies of second-hand goods offered (p. 486).

FESTIVITIES have been rife this week. We report dinners of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, containing an amusing speech by Dr. Murrell (whose portrait we give), the Bottle Association of London (Mr. Adpar Jones, of Idris's, is President), Nottingham Chemists, Edinburgh Assistants, and Hearn's "Eclipse" bottle-makers (p. 459).

WINTER SESSION is long but interesting. The principal items are a lecture by Dr. Clowes on bacteria and sewage, one by Professor Warington on bacteria as nitrogen-producers, others by Dr. Patrick Manson on malaria, and Dr. Lewis Jones on medical applications of electricity; while the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Association furnishes a paper (topical) by Mr. Squire, and Manchester two by Mr. Hoseason on glycerophosphates and pepsin (p. 475).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Opposed to Licences.

At the annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce (reported on page 454) the question of the "Stamps and Licences Act" of Cape Colony was discussed. The following is the resolution which was passed :—

That in the opinion of this Association the annual licences imposed by the Government of Cape Colony assessed upon the subscribed capital of British joint-stock companies is unfair in its incidence and detrimental to trade, and that the Executive Council be requested to communicate with the Cape Government, urging the repeal or the reduction of the licences.

Full particulars of this Act will be found in our issues of April 15, 1899, page 602, and June 3, 1899, page 879, the matter having been raised in connection with the Cape branch of A. J. White (Limited).

Chemists' Licences.

Off wine-licences have been granted at the recent licensing sessions to the following traders :—

Mr. J. E. Griffiths (Messrs. Howard & Co., chemists), 25 Hill Street, Richmond.

The Sussex Drug Company for premises at Station Road, Redhill, and at 13 High Street, Guildford.

At Staines Licensing Sessions on March 5, Howell Edwin Clements, chemist, Hampton Hill, applied for a renewal of his "off" wine-licence. The renewal was opposed by Mr. Lay, who said Mr. Clements last year applied for a wine-licence, and at that time described himself as a chemist, which he was. Mr. Clements, however, had no sooner got his wine-licence than he made a doorway into the adjacent premises, and instead of carrying on the business applied for last year on his own premises, the applicant had been, and was, selling wine from these next-door premises, which were not licensed. He (Mr. Lay) held that the applicant was abusing the authority of the Court in carrying on next door a business for which he had no licence. The case was adjourned until March 26. Subsequently Mr. Clements applied for an off-licence to sell spirits. Mr. Lay opposed, and contended that the notices were bad, that the premises were not described, that the applicant was not entitled to a licence, and that he ought to describe himself as a wine-merchant. Applicant gave evidence, and added that the adjacent premises had always been connected with the shop. He used them largely for the storage of syphons. The Magistrates refused the licence.

Yorkshire Drugs.

Mr. A. H. Allen, public analyst to the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council, in his annual report, states that of the samples of food and drugs submitted to him for analysis during the past year, 7·4 per cent. were adulterated, and 3·2 per cent. were inferior, doubtful, or adulterated to an insignificant extent. Commenting on the year's work, Mr. Allen said that ninety samples of drugs were found to be either adulterated or seriously deficient. Out of seventy-eight samples of camphorated oil examined, twenty-eight were discovered to be seriously defective. In these the proportion of camphor varied from 17·5 per cent. to 1 per cent. In addition to deficiency of camphor, mineral oil, or a mixture of mineral and vegetable oils, was substituted for olive oil. In one case, where the preparation was found to consist of 5 per cent. of camphor and 95 per cent. of mineral oil, the bottle containing the sample bore a printed label with the words "Camphorated oil, Beehive brand, prepared with finest olive oil and pure camphor." The numerous variations from the standard quality described above are intentional, or due to gross carelessness in the preparation of the article. There was no foundation for the statement sometimes urged in mitigation, that the preparation is liable to deteriorate on keeping, owing to the

voltatility of the contained camphor. Spirit of nitrous ether, Mr. Allen said, was liable to deteriorate by keeping, especially if stored in an imperfectly closed bottle, or if exposed to the light. Due allowance is, however, made by the British Pharmacopoeia for such deterioration, and though the plea that the drug has lost its active principles through long or careless storage may be used in mitigation of an offence by unqualified shopkeepers, it is unjustifiable in the case of a registered pharmacist. The fact that standard preparations should be of uniform strength is, however, fully recognised by pharmacists. A practical difficulty in all proceedings in connection with defective drugs arises from the fact that the British Pharmacopoeia is not established by law as the official standard for the drugs named therein, but is simply accepted as evidence of what such drugs may reasonably be expected to be. It is to be regretted that the editor of the British Pharmacopoeia has pointed this out in such a manner and under such conditions as materially to increase the difficulties in this connection.

A sample of beef peptonoids did not come within the description by the manufacturers of "purely nitrogenous food of the highest value." Fifty-three per cent., or fully one-half of the entire weight of the sample, consisted of milk-sugar, and nearly 15 per cent., in addition, was composed of wheat-starch (apparently introduced in the form of about 22 per cent. of ordinary wheaten flour). These constituents, with the ash and the moisture, amounted to 77 per cent., and were all non-nitrogenous. About 17 per cent. of the sample came under the head of "the nitrogenous or flesh-forming principles of beef, wheat, and milk," whereas, according to the label, the preparation contained between 80 and 90 per cent. of flesh-producing matter. The statements on the label with respect to the nutritive value of the sample as compared with various foods were not justified by the facts.

Referring to the new Sale of Food and Drugs Act the report states that it will render the position of the public analyst more difficult than it has hitherto been, and will in no way facilitate the practical working of the law. It was to be deplored that Parliament ignored the recommendation of the Select Committee on food-products adulteration, which stated that

An authority should be constituted who should act as a court of reference upon scientific and other questions arising under the Acts, and who should be empowered at their discretion to prescribe standards and limits of the quality and purity of food.

The report concludes with a reference to the Departmental Committee at present sitting to inquire into the use of colouring-matters and preservatives in food.

L.C.C. Matters.

At the meeting of the London County Council on March 13, Mr. R. A. Robinson, chemist and druggist, of 95 Brompton Road, S.W., was elected on the Establishment, Parliamentary, and Rivers Committees; Mr. T. H. W. Idris, F.C.S., was elected on the Main Drainage, Parliamentary, and Water Committees; Mr. McDougal, F.C.S., was elected on the Asylums, Finance, Water, Housing of the Working Classes, Main Drainage, Theatres and Music Halls, and Small Holdings Committees.

The Stores Committee reported that the contracts with Messrs. Wade for the supply of five articles specified in the disinfectants schedule having expired they had communicated with four of the firms who sent in tenders for disinfectants, but they were unwilling to supply at the prices quoted in April owing to the advances in raw material. Of the new quotations submitted by these firms, the most favourable to the Council were those of Tuson's Disinfectants Company (Limited), and they recommended that arrangements be entered into with the firm for the supply of different disinfectants. For the two items in the oil schedule the Council did not take out a contract.

At the same meeting the Water Committee recommended that the chemist be authorised to continue the analyses of water from the Thames and sea above the water companies' intakes, and of the water drawn from the companies' mains for a further period of six months. Dr. White moved that the recommendation be referred back to the committee with instructions to report to the Council as to the expediency

and cost of a permanent arrangement for analysing the water supplied by the companies. The matter was adjourned.

Drug-contracts.

The Sanitas Company (Limited) have contracted to supply the Islington Vestry with sulphur candles for the year ending March 25, 1901.

The Orsett Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Mr. A. Dyson, chemist, Grays, for the supply of drugs to the Workhouse for the current quarter.

Manx Customs Duties.

Simultaneously with the increase in Customs duties in Great Britain and Ireland, the Tynwald Court of the Isle of Man has raised the duties on tea, tobacco, and spirits by corresponding amounts, although the duties payable in respect to spirits are 1s. per proof gallon less than those mentioned in the *C. & D.* of last week, page 424. There was considerable discussion when the proposals were brought before the Court by the Governor, and when the resolution had been practically decided upon the following conversation took place:—

Mr. J. R. Cowell: Does the resolution cover methylated spirit, and so forth?

The Governor: No.

Mr. J. R. Cowell: There is a duty now on methylated spirit, isn't there?

The Attorney-General: There is no duty on it here, coming to the Isle of Man.

Deemster Sir James Gell: The only spirits on which there is a duty are those named in the resolution.

Mr. J. R. Cowell: What is meant by the term "mixed spirits"? Does anyone know?

Mr. Mylchreest: Blended spirits.

Mr. J. R. Cowell: Would it be impossible to add the words "methylated spirit"? I happen to know of people getting drunk on it.

Mr. Mylchreest: It would be worth finding out if it comes free. There is a great quantity used. It is used for cleansing. It is alcohol mixed with wood-naphtha, and is a powerful spirit—very nearly proof.

Deemster Kneen: If it is almost pure, it seems to me it ought to pay its duty.

The Governor: I will consider it. Now shall we pass the resolution?

An American Remedy.

On March 8, at Liverpool, an inquiry was held concerning the death of Thomas Blundell, a farm-labourer at Aintree. Blundell complained of being unwell at his work, and Mr. Gilmour (his employer), gave him a glass of whisky, to which the farmer had added three drops of aeonite. The man became worse. Dr. Fleetwood was sent for, and Blundell died shortly afterwards. The aeonite administered by Gilmour was an American preparation. The bottle containing the poison was given to him by an American horse-dealer, and was used for allaying certain ailments to which horses are subject. Gilmour had been told that the liquid could be given to human beings with impunity, and on one occasion he had given three drops to his daughter. A *post-mortem* examination showed that Blundell had died from an inflamed condition of the stomach due to an irritant poison. It was explained that owing to the peculiarly sensitive nature of the deceased, who had a small and weak heart, the poison was likely to have a more disastrous effect than otherwise. The Deputy-coroner (Mr. E. Gibson) believed that Gilmour had acted with a generous motive, but said that it was unfortunate that such deadly poisons should be entrusted to people who were ignorant of the nature of the ingredients. The bottle was not labelled. He did not think Mr. Gilmour was to blame. The jury also took this view of the case, and concluded that death was due to poison administered by misadventure.

Teaching the Doctor

At an inquest held at Lambeth on March 8, on the body of a woman named Panther, the evidence showed that deceased had committed suicide by taking rat-poison. A packet labelled "Battle's Vermin-killer" was found in her room, and Mr. E. C. Hutchins, chemist and druggist, 36 Lower Kennington Lane, S.E., deposed to selling her a

sixpenny packet, for which she signed the poisons-book. Dr E. Payne, who was called in, said he injected apomorphine into the brain, but the woman died two hours later from strychnine-poisoning. He remarked as singular the fact that the woman had not vomited, and yet he had found no signs of blue colouring-matter in the stomach, but Mr. Hutchins, recalled, said the vermin-killer was coloured with sulphate of copper and not Prussian blue, and the copper would have no emetic effect. The Coroner thought it a pity something was not mixed with the vermin-killer to act as an emetic, and Mr. Hutchins added that the stomach-pump, if applied promptly might have had good effect.

Who was the Traveller?

The mishap of a chemist's traveller was the cause of a pleasant perfume in the streets of Evesham the other day. The traveller did not employ a man to look after his boxes, and some of them were upset while he was engaged not far from the Town Hall. Puff-boxes, scent-bottles, pills, and ointment, and many other things, rolled about the road in strange confusion, and the neighbourhood of the coffee-tavern and the butcher's shop was rich with sweet odours strangely blended.

A Carbolic Victim.

At Portsmouth on March 9, an inquest on the body of William Lane (73) revealed the fact that he had committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid in Fratton Railway Station.

Found among the Dust.

At Thames Police Court on March 12, John Nelson Pickett, a Customs watcher, was charged with being in the unlawful possession of a bottle of chlorodyne and a bottle of Powell's balsam of aniseed. Prisoner was stopped by a dock-constable when about to leave the South-West India Dock on March 10, and on being searched the two bottles were found in his possession. When the accused was asked to account for the possession of the property he stated that he found them among the dust. It was afterwards found that a case containing similar drugs had been broached. The accused was discharged with a caution.

Ammonia-poisoning.

At Huddersfield on March 10 an inquiry was held into the cause of the death of Daniel Arthur Royston. The evidence showed that the deceased drank some liquid ammonia supposing it to be whisky, and died shortly afterwards.

Fires.

The British Seamless Rubber Company inform us that only two of their five buildings were destroyed by fire, and they have made arrangements to mitigate any interference with business.

On March 7 fire broke out in the chemist's shop at the corner of Berkham Street and Taylor Street, South Shields, occupied by Mr. Stephenson. The shop was closed (it being the Wednesday half-holiday), and, despite the efforts of the fire-brigade, the premises were gutted. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A fire broke out on March 9 in a warehouse at the rear of the premises of Mr. J. Squire, chemist and druggist, Queen Street, Oxford. The outbreak was discovered early in the morning, and as the warehouse was filled with quantities of very inflammable goods, it was feared that the results would be disastrous; but owing to the promptitude of the police all danger was quickly averted.

Public Dispensing Classes.

As is now generally known, for some years past the Technical School authorities of Birmingham have held classes for the benefit of pharmaceutical students in chemistry and botany, and some attempt has been made to encourage the acquisition of knowledge of *materia medica* by the formation of cabinets necessary for this subject. The times of meeting of the classes vary, but Wednesday afternoon is a favourite time, as this is supposed to be an "off" day with pharmacists. As many as a dozen ladies attend, and to these is attributed a round-robin to be presented to the Council asking their consideration of the desirability of forming classes in practical dispensing and pharmacy.

Whether the Council will look favourably upon such a proposal in face of the fact that a like course exists at the Mason College, or whether it is considered desirable by local pharmacists in practice that such subjects should be open to all ratepayers, particularly "dahlers in physic," remains to be seen. It is very certain that at the fees which technical schools usually charge the curious will not hesitate to avail themselves of such opportunities if only to find out the composition of the medicine prescribed for them by the local consultants, and probably to compound it themselves by the old-fashioned method of pen'orths.

Not Sold.

At the Central Sale-rooms, Lincoln, on March 9, the shop of Mr. W. E. Hill, pharmaceutical chemist, 233 High Street, with house and warehouses attached, were offered to public competition, but withdrawn at 6,100*l.*

Dispenser and Bookkeeper.

At a meeting of the Wolverhampton Board of Guardians on March 9, the Dispensary Committee, in their report, stated that fault had been again found with the conduct of the Union dispenser, who did not keep his hooks as the committee desired. Several members having remarked on the unsatisfactory character of the dispenser's conduct, Mr. Hyde (chairman of the committee) stated the only thing so far as he knew that was unsatisfactory in regard to the dispenser was in the matter of keeping the hooks, which had never before been kept. The dispenser had, however, now undertaken to keep the hooks as required, and the report was referred back to the committee for reconsideration.

The Elusive Cash-box.

At the Manchester Police Court on March 9, Wm Oxford and Henry Thatcher were charged with stealing a cash-box containing 6*l.* 5*s.*, the property of Messrs. Hargreaves & Spencer Saunders, chemists and druggists, Hulme, Manchester. From the evidence of Mr. Saunders and his apprentice, it appeared that during the temporary absence of Mr. Saunders Thatcher entered the shop and asked for sixpennyworth of Russian oil. The apprentice went into the cellar for a bottle, and the prisoner Thatcher went with him to hold the light while a bottle was being found. Half-a-pint of oil was given him, and he left. Oxford afterwards came in for twopennyworth of Beecham's pills, in payment for which he tendered half-a-sovereign, and change was given out of the cash-box, which was returned to the drawer in which it was kept. Soon after Oxford left Thatcher returned for more oil, which was supplied to him. Shortly afterwards Mr. Saunders found that the cash-box had disappeared, and the prisoners were apprehended, both having gold and silver in their possession. Other cash-box robberies from different shops in the city having been reported, the prisoners were committed for trial at the Sessions.

Better than Working.

Wm. Cunningham, for some time a labourer in Levinstein's chemical-works, Crumpsall, but previously a quack-medicine seller, was charged before the Manchester City Justices on March 8 with not providing sufficient food for his child, 12 months old. Evidence of neglect of his wife and child was given, and it was further stated that he had left Levinstein's works on his own accord, and the firm had kept his place open for him for a fortnight, but he had told his wife he could earn more with his pills and cough-lozenges in the market in an hour than he could earn at the chemical-works in a week. Three months with hard labour was his reward.

The Army Dispenser.

At Portsmouth Police Court on March 13, Ann Cahle summoned her husband, John Edward Cahle, an Army pensioner, for arrears of payment under a maintenance order made by the Magistrates. Defendant was employed at Hilsea as an Army medical dispenser, and it is required by law that a Magistrate's order against a soldier shall be served upon the officer commanding the district in which he is serving. As this had not been done, the summons was dismissed.

For the Second Time.

On March 2 a burglar effected an entrance into the premises of Mr. W. Proctor, chemist and manufacturer of pineyptus products, at 7 New Bridge Street, Newcastle, by climbing on to the roof, removing a few slates, and cutting a large square hole through the ceiling. By means of a ladder the shop was reached, and the place ransacked. Only a few shillings and coppers had, however, been left in the till, but the falling plaster damaged a few bottles of drugs. Eighteen months ago someone entered the building in a similar manner, but at that time a large sum of money was stolen.

Associated Chambers of Commerce.

The fortieth annual meeting opened in the Hotel Métropole, London, on March 14, Mr. G. T. Harper, of Southampton, presiding in the absence, through illness, of Lord Avebury. After discussing a motion for the Government to deal with the question of sugar-hounties, the motion being defeated, the meeting resolved that the levying of charges for licences for commercial travellers in foreign countries and some British colonies was a serious interference with legitimate trading, and it was decided to send a copy of the resolution to the Foreign Office and to the Governments of Cape Colony, Natal, the Australian colonies, and New Zealand. It was also agreed that Parliament should place some limits on municipal trading, and that the Cape taxation of companies' whole capital is unfair (see previous paragraph). An invitation by Mr. Thomas Barclay, of the Paris Chamber, to hold the next meeting in Paris was accepted. At a dinner in the evening Mr. Ritchie spoke on the Companies Bill, but merely to say that the Association had approved the Bill now before Parliament.

Headache-powders.

At an inquest held before Mr. A. Holmes, the Salford Coroner, on March 13, it appeared that the deceased, Sarah Henderson, 9 years of age, had complained of headache, and the mother obtained a headache-powder from a local chemist, which was given to the girl, and death took place two hours afterwards. The powder was labelled "For adults." It contained antifebrin and phenacetine. Dr. Fraser said that it was quite possible death would have taken place even if the powder had not been administered, but the drugs in the powder depressed the heart, and the quantity contained in it was too much for a child of the age of the deceased. The jury recommended that the powders should be labelled "Not for children," and the chemist promised to adopt the suggestion.

Scratching off the "Poison" Label.

At Taunton on March 14, Richard Henry Latham, engineer's fitter, was committed for trial for attempting to commit suicide by taking a quantity of laudanum. The accused, who was addicted to drink, sent his daughter to a chemist for a pennyworth of laudanum. When she brought it back he scratched off the label marked "Poison," emptied the contents into an eggcup, and sent her to another chemist's shop for a further pennyworth of laudanum, which he added to the first dose. He sent for two pennyworth of whisky, with which he mixed the two portions of laudanum, and drank the lot. The dose amounted to 2 dr., but after immediate attention at the hospital he recovered.

Irish News.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Applications must be lodged with the Registrar for the April examinations not later than 11 A.M. on Monday, March 26, for the Pharmaceutical Assistants Examination; and on Tuesday, March 27, for the Registered Druggist and Pharmaceutical Licence examinations.

Waterford Poisoning-case.

At the Waterford County Assizes on March 10, Patrick Dunphy (70) was sentenced to death for poisoning his son John, a lad of 11, with strychnine. Particulars of the case have been given in the *C. & D.* The motive of the crime is said to have been the insurance on the life of the child. The execution is to take place on April 10.

Malicious-injury Claims.

In connection with the burning of Askeaton Mills (*C. & D.*, March 10, page 402), the owner of the mills has been awarded 1,500*l.*, the amount to be levied off the Rathkeale Rural District. Another claim in connection with the same fire was dismissed.

Forgiven this Time.

The Poor-law Guardians at Navan have not procured the medicines and surgical appliances obtained during the last year in accordance with the L.G.B. regulations, but the Department informs the Guardians that it will allow the usual recoupment this time, with a warning as to the future.

Dispenser Wanted.

The position of compounder to the Rathfarnham Dispensary, Dublin, being vacant, was offered to the dispensary doctors for an additional 20*l.* a year to their salaries. Both medical men declined, and it has been decided to appoint an apothecary or pharmaceutical chemist at a salary of 100*l.* a year. The holder of the appointment must not be engaged in trade on his own account.

Must have Qualified Dispensers.

The Local Government Board have written to the Guardians of the Navan Union that they regard as unsatisfactory the action of the workhouse medical officer in employing an unqualified person to assist in compounding medicines, and request that in future the medical officer will under no circumstances delegate the work to an unqualified person, as serious notice will be taken of any such irregularity.

The "Calendar."

A copy of the new edition of the "Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland" (1900) has reached us this week. The arrangement of the book is the same as the previous volume, and includes the registers required by the Pharmacy Act (Ireland), 1875, as well as reprints of the Acts and Orders in Council referring to the work of the Society. The examination-papers which have been set at the various examinations of the Society during 1899 are given in full at the end.

Analysing Old Drugs.

At the last meeting of the Drogheda Board of Guardians a letter was received from Messrs. Leslie & Co., chemists, Dublin, in reply to the order of the Guardians asking for an explanation *re* the deficiency in some of the supplies of medicines as testified by the analyst. They stated they would not hold themselves responsible for the quality of the goods six months after they had been supplied, especially in the case of such a volatile substance as ammonia. They suggested that the bottle had not been properly corked before sending the sample for analysis. The Guardians considered that if medicines were not useful for six months they should lay in supplies for shorter periods.

Discounts Increasing.

The Local Government Board having directed the Guardians of the Parsonstown Union to ascertain from drug-contractors how far they would reduce their quotations for medicines and surgical appliances below the prescribed list-price, the following tenders have been received:—Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, 25 per cent. off; Messrs. Gordon & Co., Birr, 30 per cent. off; Messrs. Hunt & Co., Dublin, 35 per cent. off; Cork Chemical Company, 45 per cent. off; and Messrs. Leslie, Dublin, and Clarke, Belfast, each 50 per cent. off.

Scotch News.**In the Court of Session.**

An action has been entered at the Court of Session, Edinburgh, by Mr. Daniel Clarke, chemical-manufacturer, Old Kent Road, S.E., against Mr. Thos. Hardie, chemical-manufacturer, Ayr, in respect to the purchase and transfer of a number of shares in Clarke's Ammonia-works (Limited), Ayr. The case has been sent to the procedure roll.

In the Court of Session on March 8, the Judges had before them six petitions complaining of breach of interdict on the part of Falkirk aerated-water manufacturers in persisting in filling and issuing to the public bottles marked with the registered trade-mark or other inscription of the petitioners. The complainants were aerated-water manufacturers in Falkirk, and in the first case Robert McGilchrist, aerated-water manufacturer, Falkirk, was found guilty of breach of the interdict, and the Lord President, in admonishing McGilchrist, warned him that if there was any further breach, it was not likely that the Court would a second time extend leniency. John Veitch, sole partner of the late firm of J. & W. Veitch, aerated-water manufacturers, Falkirk, afterwards appeared at the bar of the Court to answer to two complaints of failing to comply with the interdict, and he was likewise admonished and dismissed.

On March 8 the Anchor Mineral-water Company, Glasgow, sued the Glasgow and West of Scotland Aerated-water Manufacturers' Defence Association (Limited) for delivery of 500 dozen empty aerated-water bottles and 100 empty wooden boxes, which they claimed should be delivered to them free of charge. The Court of Session has not sustained that view.

Not Yet.

At a meeting of the University Court of St. Andrew's on March 10, the question of a qualifying winter course of *materia medica* was brought forward. The Lord Rector (Mr. James Stuart, M.P.) offered to pay 100*l.* a year for two years to assist in securing the proper arrangements for the conduct of the course, and a motion to accept the Lord Rector's offer and to start the course was put forward. An amendment to defer consideration of the matter until next meeting was, however, ultimately carried by eight votes to seven.

A Dispenser Wanted.

At a meeting of the Dundee Parish Council on March 9, a letter was read from Dr. Wotherspoon, resident medical officer at the Poor-house, tendering his resignation. A councillor moved that a sub-committee should be appointed to inquire into the duties of the doctor, to see if the post could not be made more comfortable for a man to live in. The Council, he said, had been much annoyed lately with changes in the resident medical officership, and he thought the matter should be thoroughly inquired into. The Chairman suggested that it was the dispensing that was the cause of the trouble, and another member said if they were to agree to appoint a permanent dispenser Dr. Wotherspoon would perhaps withdraw his resignation. After a long discussion the Chairman said he was satisfied that if they appointed a competent man who had a business in the city to do their dispensing and to act as purchaser and supervisor of their drugs it would pay them in the end. The matter was remitted to the Poor-house Committee.

Death under Chloroform.

Mr. James Whitby, an organist in Cupar, died on March 12 while about to have some teeth extracted under chloroform by Mr. W. Duncan, dentist. It appears that Mr. Whitby had requested Mr. Duncan to use gas on a previous occasion, but he was found to be a bad subject, and chloroform was administered by Dr. Sneddon.

Business Changes.

Mr. W. A. Ness, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business at 66 Holburn Street, Aberdeen, lately carried on by Mr. R. Sturrock.

Mr. Thos. Armstrong, lately with Messrs. O. Robertson & Co., chemists, Bridge of Allan, has purchased the business at 36a West Port, Dundee, formerly carried on by Mr. R. J. Middler.

Inspecting the Chemical-works.

On March 10 a number of representative agriculturists paid a visit of inspection to the Friarton Chemical-works, Perth (W. S. Ferguson & Co.). The party were shown over the extensive buildings of the company, and examined the different manures. After the inspection the visitors were entertained to luncheon in the Victoria Hotel.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

PARIS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—M. Gautier has been appointed professor of toxicology at this school in place of M. Planchon, now professor of inorganic chemistry. It appears to have been thought by some members of the Paris Society of Pharmacy that the post would have been offered to M. Leidié, who is assistant professor of chemistry and toxicology at the school, and consequently M. Gautier's appointment has produced some caustic remarks.

THE TREATMENT OF INFLUENZA was discussed at the last meeting of the Paris Academy of Medicine with much interest. Dr. Huchard, of the Necker Hospital, Paris, opened the discussion by reading a paper entitled "The Treatment of Influenza and its Attenuated Forms." He said that as a preventive measure, antiseptic treatment should be followed. He especially recommended washing the mouth out with a 10-per-cent. solution of boric acid, $\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. formol, or 5-per-cent. phenol. As internal remedies the doctor uses sulphate or hydrobromate of quinine, and occasionally small quantities of sulphate of strychnine.

TROUBLE IN THE NAVY.—It will be remembered that not long ago a clerk connected with the Admiralty here was accused of having sold secrets relating to the French Navy to the British Embassy in Paris, which H.M. Ambassador promptly denied. Now the name of M. Durand, a principal

medicine manufacturer. The Congress is to be divided into three sections. The first will deal with the trade in pharmaceutical specialities between different countries, the comparative importance of the productions of such specialities in each country and its colonies, and the means for facilitating and developing the trade in patent medicines. Section 2 will treat of the regulation controlling the manufacture and sale of patent medicines in different countries, as well as the question of Custom-house duties. Section 3 is to discuss the guarantees given by trade-marks from an international point of view. This Congress is being arranged by patent-medicine manufacturers in opposition to the very marked anti-patent movement that exists here, and it is more than likely that the promoters of the Congress will take steps to keep the discussions in their own hands, as all papers intended to be read at the meetings have to be submitted in advance. *C. & D.* readers will remember that the Committee of the International Pharmacy Congress has decided that no discussion on the subject of patent medicines will be tolerated at the meetings which open on August 2. It was M. Denize, a rampant anti-patent agitator, who proposed the discussion on patents at the Pharmacy Congress, and one of his friends, M. Gamel, who is a member of the Congress Committee, has given some explanation of his reasons for voting against such discussion. He is of opinion that they have not the right as Frenchmen to proclaim to foreigners that they are powerless to fight against patent medicines.

Colonial and Foreign News.

TO BE REORGANISED.—It is proposed to reorganise the duties of military pharmacists in the Dutch Indies by giving them only the scientific pharmaceutical work to do. The mechanical part of the dispensing and laboratory work will be left to assistants, possibly women.

PHARMACY INSPECTION in Spain appears not to satisfy the Pharmaceutical Association of Bologna, which has petitioned the Minister of the Interior to have the work done more efficiently especially with the view of determining whether or not they are conducted by qualified persons.

TRADE RECIPROCITY.—An arrangement has been made by the United States and Italy under the reciprocity sections of the Dingley Tariff Act by which the United States gains a considerable reduction in the duties on cottonseed oil and other staples, while Italy secures a reduction on still wines, argols, and works of art.

HELOUAN BATHS.—New baths have recently been opened at Helouan, a town fifteen miles south of Cairo and three miles from the Nile, for the reception of rheumatic invalids. The natural waters of Helouan have long been known, but a revival has lately taken place in their use, which has led to the erection of the new baths.

A NEW MEXICAN PHARMACOPEIA.—Mexico is now engaged in the production of a new edition of the Pharmacopœia. The strength and preparation of the formulas are to be made to correspond to the teaching at the School of Therapeutics, so that the Pharmacopœia should not be a dead letter amongst the doctors. The revision will be carried out after the manner followed in the United States.

PHARMACY LEGISLATION IN AUSTRIA.—In the Austrian Parliament recently M. Nowack, formerly an apotheker, has moved that the Government should take steps to bring about a thorough reformation of pharmacy laws. The opening of new pharmacies, he argues, should be regulated according to the increase of population, scientific education should keep pace with the development of natural sciences, and the relation of pharmacies to doctors' dispensaries and to druggists should be properly set forth. An insurance for the old age and invalidity of a pharmacist should likewise be provided.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—At the dinner which preceded the meeting of the New York Section on February 23, Mr. George C. de Lessing, who had recently returned from a visit in London, reported how hospitably he had been treated by members of the London Section at the January meeting, and how cordial were the feelings of the Section



MONS. C. DURAND.

pharmacien of the French Navy, has been mentioned in connection with the affair, as he has been removed from his post as Director of the Admiralty Chemical Laboratory at the Chief Naval Pharmacy, Paris, to a post in one of the ports. The only thing against M. Durand is that he was on the committee of a company with which Philipp was connected, and his transfer is explained by the fact that, according to the regulations, the time during which he could hold his post in Paris transpired some time ago. It was generally thought, however, that in view of the services he had rendered to the Admiralty, they were anxious to keep him here. He appears to be especially expert in the analysis of cloth and cotton goods. As a principal pharmacien in the Navy, M. Durand holds the rank of major.

A PATENT-MEDICINE CONGRESS, or, to give it the full title, "the International Congress of the Industry and Commerce of Pharmaceutical Specialities," will, I hear, be held in Paris during the Exhibition. It will open on September 3. The president will be M. Victor Fumouze, a well-known patent-

to their New York *confrères*. Mr. Thomas J. Parker, the Chairman, thereupon called for a standing vote to acknowledge the cordiality with which English sections of the Society had always greeted the American members, and the vote was passed with enthusiasm.

ARSENICAL WATERS.—The Swedish Government has given permission to the proprietors of the Ronneby, Porla, and Rindö mineral-water springs to add 5 centigrammes of arsenious anhydride to each litre of the waters. This arsenic-iron water can only be administered, however, on a doctor's prescription, and is sent out in sealed bottles bearing a label stating the amount of arsenious anhydride contained and the word "Poison." Pharmacists only are allowed to stock these waters.

BELATED CONSULAR REPORTS.—The *Handelsmuseum* quotes a report from the German Chamber at Leghorn, which says the market shows no very special features, although the Italian industry, supported by heavy Customs duties, cheap labour, and cheap raw material, makes considerable progress, to the gradual destruction of the import-trade. It is to be noted that this destruction is assisted by German capital. Aniline dyes, pharmaceutical specialities, and fine colours have found an improving market. Benzine is largely sent by Germany into Italy. Rice-starch also finds a good market. Camphor has lost favour, and naphthaline takes its place for insect-destruction. The latter is chiefly bought from Germany. A similar authority in Odessa says that the import of alkali, &c., has fallen off. Generally speaking, chemicals and apothecaries' stuffs are chiefly bought from Germany. A further report from Rostow says that the import of chemicals improves, but the factories in the interior, which are represented by German houses in Riga, are getting better hold of their own market. It should be noted that all the foregoing refer to 1898 as compared with 1897. Extraordinary delays seem to take place with regard to the issue of the reports.

NEW PARAGUAYAN TARIFF.—A new import tariff came into operation on January 1, the duties on articles connected with the drug-trade being as follows:—Extracts of beef, 0·10 pesos per kilo. (= 1·25c. U.S.); condensed milk, 0·05 pesos per kilo. (0·62c.). Essential oils, "ordinary and regular," 0·30 pesos per litre (3·75c.); "fine" ditto, 0·40 pesos per litre (5c.); toilet waters in general, 0·20 pesos per litre (2·5c.). Barber brilliantana, 0·02 pesos per flask (0·25c.); cold-cream in general, 0·02 pesos per flask (0·25c.); "perfumed colours," 4 pesos per kilo. (50c.); cosmetics in general, 0·30 pesos per kilo. (3·75c.); "ordinary handkerchief extracts," 0·50 pesos per litre (6·25c.); "fine extracts in general," 0·60 pesos per litre (7·5c.); "ordinary smelling soaps," 0·20 pesos per kilo. (2·5c.); fine ditto, 0·30 pesos per kilo. (3·75c.); tablets for the teeth and soap-paste for barbers, 0·02 pesos per flask (0·25c.); rice-powder for face, 0·20 pesos per flask (2·5c.); perfumed toilet pomades, 0·30 pesos per flask (3·75c.); Oriental tonic, 0·03 pesos per flask (0·37c.); aromatic vinegar in general, 0·02 pesos per litre (0·25c.); Ayer's hair vigor, 0·03 pesos per flask (0·37c.). We gather that drugs and medicines will pay 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, as they are included under "all merchandise which is not otherwise specially taxed, or is not free of duty." "Perfumery in general" will pay 50 percent. *ad val.* In the list of free goods are bicarbonate of soda (impure), calcium carbide potash and calcined soda ash (impure), resin for soap manufacturers, crude sulphate of copper for agriculture, rock salt for cattle, and liquid or dry silicates of soda for use in the arts.

Australasian News.

From "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia,"
February 1, 1900; 6d. per copy, post free.

CONDY'S FLUID.—In the Supreme Court on February 1, Mr. Justice Hodges granted a perpetual injunction on behalf of Condyl & Mitchell (Limited) to restrain Alexander Melvin Cattach, chemist, Johnson and Wellington Streets, Collingwood, from selling a solution of permanganate of potash or other preparation of his own as being the same as Condyl's fluid. It was stated that defendant had paid a certain sum as damages and costs.

DIVIDING THE EXAMINATION.—The President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania in his address at the annual meeting in January, in referring to the division of the Final examination which had taken place during the past year, said the change had worked well. The President added that he had corresponded on the subject with friends of his in London, including two Councillors of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, who were watching the experiment with considerable interest.

STUDENTS' COMPETITIONS.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, held at Adelaide on January 23, a medal was presented to the successful competitor in the pharmaceutical-preparations competition which the Society had organised. Five entered for the competition but only two held on to the finish. The articles prepared were absolute alcohol, liquor bismuthi, iodoform, silver nitrate, and confection of senna. The judges' task in adjudicating the exhibits was not light.

CUTICURA TRADE-MARK.—A case came on for hearing at Sydney on January 12 in which the defendant sold to plaintiff's agent a cake of "Cutiscure" soap when asked for Cuticura soap. The spurious article was labelled "Cutis cure soap, great skin-cure, manufactured by Chiozza & Turdin, soap-makers, Pontel, Acoseuro, Italy." Defendant, an Assyrian draper, said he had only sold the one cake of the soap objected to, and did not know he was infringing the law. A fine of 1*l.*, with 2*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* costs, and 6*1*/*2* *d.* (the value of the soap sold), was inflicted.

USE OF TITLE.—In the case in which the Queensland Pharmacy Board prosecuted for the illegal use of the title "chemist and druggist" (*C. & D.*, February 10, page 242), a fine of 10*l.*, with 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* costs, or in default one month's imprisonment, was inflicted. An application, in chambers, for a rule *nisi* to quash the conviction was refused. The same defendant was also charged with unlawfully using the title "chemist" in an electoral claim, but the Police Magistrate held that though the defendant had used a title which might be construed to mean that he was qualified to perform the duties of a pharmaceutical chemist, it had been done without motive. The case was dismissed with costs (2*l.* 2*s.*) against the Board. The Magistrate said he would state a special case if it was desired.

THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE met in Melbourne from the 13th to the 20th of January. Several pharmacists were associated with the gathering, but chiefly in the biological section, where the field-naturalists mostly congregated. The President of the chemical section gave an address on "Landmarks in the History of Chemistry," in which he followed closely the arrangement of Ladenburg's "History of Chemistry" recently referred to in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. Papers in the chemical section dealt chiefly with mineralogical subjects and wine-examination. Other contributions were on "The Use of Iceland Spar as a Standard in Volumetric Analysis," "The Molecular Constitution of Water," "Alkaloids in Australian Plants," and "The Estimation of Nicotine in Tobacco."

EARLY CLOSING ACT.—The New South Wales Early Closing Act, which recently came into force, is causing some trouble among chemists. At the January Council-meeting of the N.S.W. Pharmaceutical Society the President was authorised to interview the Department of Labour and ask the Department to take steps in the interests of pharmacists generally to prevent certain city chemists from over-riding the Act. A difficulty has arisen as to when a shop is "closed." An inspector who called at a chemist's shop at 10.30 P.M. was assured that the pharmacy was closed for the purpose of trade, only prescriptions being dispensed after 9 P.M. One pharmacist states that the stoppage of his trade between 9 and 11 P.M. means a loss to him of 600*l.* a year; and, as his shop is situated in the chief pedestrian-avenue of Sydney, it is certain that considerable loss must follow.

MR. H. C. EDWARDS, chemist, Queen's Road, Hastings, is carrying out extensive alterations in his pharmacy. The dispensary will now be above the pharmacy, communication being effected by a lift, so that the prescriptions as filled are lowered into the shop without disturbing the dispenser in his work.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING.

THE Council met at the Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on March 6. There were present the President (Mr. George D. Beggs), Dr. Walsh, and Messrs. Bernard (Vice-President), White, J.P. (Sligo), Kelly, Wells, Grindley, and Simpson.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed, and arising from them,

Dr. WALSH asked: Did the *Medical Press* publish our resolution and report in reply to their statement?

The PRESIDENT: They did not.

Mr. GRINDLEY: They apologised.

Mr. WELLS: They published a note last week saying they never made the statement that was attributed to them.

AMERICAN SYMPATHY.

A letter from the Editor of *Meyer Brothers' Druggist*, Saint Louis, U.S., intimated that that publication would be sent to the Society, and that space would be given in it to the members with a view to co-operation for the betterment of pharmacy in Ireland.

The PRESIDENT: We are very much obliged to the Editor of *Meyer Brothers' Druggist* for this donation. I am sure their journal will prove interesting to our members. It will be added to our library.

Thanks for the gift were voted.

A BURNT DIPLOMA.

A letter from a member of the Society stated that through a fire at his premises his license had been burned, and he requested to be supplied with a new one.

The PRESIDENT: The only thing we can do in this matter is to give him a letter stating that he passed our Licence examination.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from Dublin Castle sanctioned an arrangement of the Council to commence the Easter examination on the Tuesday before Good Friday.

A letter from the Under-Secretary enclosed a copy of a memorial which had been sent to the Lord-Lieutenant by James White, of Castleblaney, praying that a penalty of 5*l.* which had been imposed on him for an illegal sale of poison might be remitted. The memorialist stated he was an apprentice to Mr. Spence, of Castleblaney, in whose employment he had been for four years. He was fined at Castleblaney Petty Sessions for having, on October 7, sold 3 oz. of laudanum to Mary Wood, he not being qualified to do so. The facts he stated were these:—On the day mentioned a messenger came to the shop and asked for the laudanum. His (White's) master had gone out at 10 o'clock that morning and he did not sell the laudanum to the messenger. Later in the day the messenger came again and was refused. At 5 o'clock the messenger came a third time and memorialist sold the laudanum, although his master had not returned. He had been cautioned by his master not to sell scheduled poisons in his absence. Mrs. Wood had been in the habit of getting laudanum to use as a liniment for rheumatic pains. Memorialist was not aware that in selling the laudanum he was committing an offence, and he was actuated by humane motives in doing as he did. The three local Magistrates recommended that the penalty should be remitted.

Mr. WELLS: He does not tell the Lord-Lieutenant in his memorial that the woman died from taking the laudanum.

The PRESIDENT: The answer of the Council should bring that fact specially under notice. The young man, an apprentice, admits that his master was away from 10 o'clock in the morning until 5 in the evening; consequently the shop was left in his sole charge during that interval, and the person to whom he sold the laudanum died from drinking it.

Mr. WHITE said the statement that the tincture of opium was wanted as a liniment was ridiculous. He believed it was got for drinking-purposes. The other day a plasterer came to him (Mr. White), and he learned from him that he was accustomed to drink 3 oz. of opium every day.

Mr. KELLY said the culpability of the master in leaving his place to an apprentice was a reason why the penalty should not be remitted.

The matter was referred to the Law Committee to draft a reply, stating that the woman had died from drinking the laudanum, and that the Council did not think the penalty should be remitted.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was thanked for a copy of the Calendar for 1900 which had been sent.

Some other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

Personalities.

DR. G. M. LOWE has been appointed public analyst to the Lincoln Town Council in succession to Dr. Chas. Harrison.

MR. F. W. STEDMAN, chemist and druggist, Ashford (Kent), has been elected a member of the newly-formed Chamber of Commerce for the town and district.

MR. FREDERICK DAVIS, Principal of the Imperial College of Pharmacy, will be the vocalist at the one o'clock organ-recital, St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., on March 20.

MR. J. P. PRESTON, of East London, South Africa, has passed the Qualifying examination of the Cape Pharmacy Board. Mr. H. Grayshon, of Leeds, has arrived at the Cape as a Volunteer dispenser. Both were students of the Leeds College of Pharmacy.

MR. BOVERTON REDWOOD was one of fifteen freemen of the Goldsmiths' Company who were admitted to the Livery on Wednesday evening, March 14, at a dinner over which the Prime Warden, Sir Richard Webster, Bart. (the Attorney-General), presided. Mr. Redwood was called upon to reply to the toast of "The Health of the Liverymen," given from the chair, and he made an effective speech, stating that he little thought when he first walked through the Goldsmiths' Hall with Sir Frederick Abel that he would ever become a Liverymen of the Company. In the course of his remarks regarding the Company's work, he made special reference to the splendid service it is doing to scientific education.

MR. RICHARD LORD GIFFORD, who during the past three years has come to the front in pharmaceutical politics, and is now a candidate for a seat on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, is a pharmaceutical chemist in business at Blackburn. Before the political side of pharmacy attracted him, Mr. Gifford paid more attention to pharmacy as an art than to the administration of the trade, and we believe we are not far wrong in stating that it was partly owing to the commercialising of pharmacy imperilling the art, that induced him to advocate uncompromising adherence to the principle of the Pharmacy Act. Mr. Gifford passed the Minor in December, 1878, and followed up that success with the Major in February, 1881. His portrait shows what manner of man he is.



MR. RICHARD LORD GIFFORD.

SOAP IN BELGIUM.—The prosperity of the soap-industry in Belgium (says the United States Consul) is just now compromised by the increase in price of raw materials. Foreign firms are endeavouring to capture the market by attractive advertisements of their soaps, and Belgian manufacturers find it difficult to compete with them.

Festivities.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-second annual dinner of the Chemists' Assistants' Association was held in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on March 8, with Mr. F. W. Gamble (President) in the chair. Between 250 and 300 diners were present, and amongst them were Dr. William Murrell, Mr. William Martindale, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Dr. John Attfield, Mr. Charles Umney, and Mr. E. M. Holmes. Following the toast of "The Queen," which was drunk with musical honours, Mr. Latreille proposed

"THE MEDICAL PROFESSION."

There was probably never a time in the history of the Association, he said, that the affinity and mutual esteem between pharmacists and members of the medical profession was stronger than at the present. On this particular occasion, when the thoughts of all were turned in the direction of South Africa, the toast especially appealed to them, as one of the brightest spots of the campaign was the admirable and complete way in which the whole of their medical and hospital arrangements had been made and carried out. (Applause.)

Dr. William Murrell replied. He recalled to mind when, as a medical student at the University College Hospital, he

was taught dispensing and pharmacy by Mr. Wm. Martindale. He jokingly referred to a pill which he never could make to Mr. Martindale's satisfaction, and explained that this remarkable pill turned out in the form of simple syrup, sometimes it actually was a pill, and at other times it would resolve itself into an ointment. When Mr. Martindale took it in hand it always was a pill. This led him up to the fact that medical men are not always educated to the requisite standard as regards pharmacology, and in his personal experience he had come across men

who knew very little about it, and certainly knew nothing about doses. He gave an instance. A well-known physician recently going round the ward of his hospital described fully the symptoms of a particular case, but when it came to the question of treatment he appealed to one of the students, who suggested that liq. ammon. acetatis might be useful. The physician asked the dose—the student did not know; the house-physician, when appealed to, did not know; the physician himself did not know, but, as he was a cautious man, he talked about the necessity of care in giving such a powerful remedy, and ended by suggesting that it might be given in doses of 1 minim twice a day. (Laughter.) Once he met a physician who did not know about doses at all; in writing a prescription he merely put down the names of the drugs without the doses until the dispenser objected. The matter went before the Hospital Committee. The physician said it was the business of the dispenser to put in the proper doses, and added that if "that infernal fellow does not know his business he had better get out of this." (Laughter.) Another anecdote was about a pharmacist's assistant who made a pill with extract of belladonna instead of simple syrup. The patient showed distinct symptoms of belladonna-poisoning. He knew his prescription was all right, but when he had recourse to the pharmacist for some explanation it turned out that the assistant had not been able to make up the pill with syrup so had used the belladonna-extract instead. (Laughter.) A case had come before him of a lady who showed symptoms of belladonna-poisoning.

She absolutely denied making use of belladonna in any form, but he ultimately discovered that she was wearing a belladonna-plaster 6 inches by 4. He thought he had reason to thank the pharmacist who made that plaster, as it so satisfactorily enabled him to diagnose the poisonous symptoms. This led up to an expression of his belief that pharmacists and physicians should work together as much as possible. The more highly educated the pharmacist, the less he would dabble in the work of the physician; and the more highly educated the physician, the less he would be inclined to interfere with the work of the pharmacist. They should work together in the interests of the public. (Loud applause.)

"THE CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION."

Mr. E. M. Holmes, in proposing this toast, said that the chemists' assistants of to-day are the masters of to-morrow, and from the masters are chosen President of the Pharmaceutical Society and its Council, and the Executive and the President of the British Pharmaceutical Conferences. From their ranks came politicians like Jacob Bell, men of science like Daniel Hanbury, leaders of men like Michael Carteighe, and princes of pharmacy like Mr. Martindale—men who have made English pharmacy known throughout the world. He appealed to the assistants to support the Conference.

Mr. F. W. Gamble, in returning thanks, spoke in eulogistic language of the help he had received from the members of his Council in conducting association matters.

During this session the excitement of war-time had detracted from the interest in the Association, whose objects were eminently peaceful, and, like the Conference and the Pharmaceutical Society, they were asking for more members. He asked all present to join, especially the younger men.

Mr. C. Morley, in perhaps the most audible speech of the evening, praised



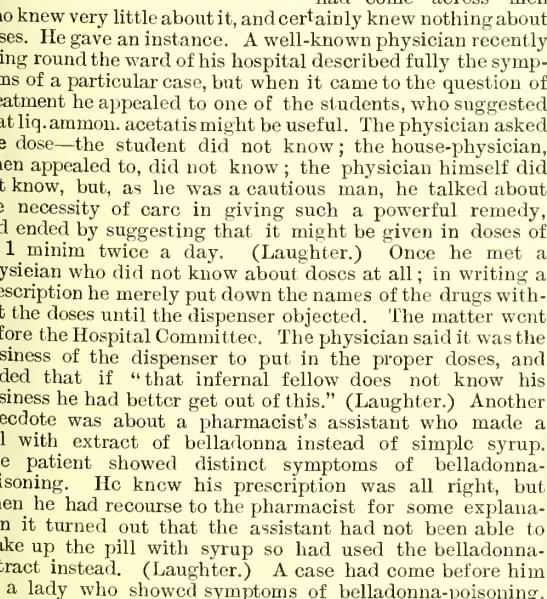
THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

MR. F. W. GAMBLE, Ph.C.

in terse and telling language. It had two virtues (which he did not name), and he deplored that they were not better known, or at least more regarded, by the general body of chemists and druggists in this country. The reason for that might be, perhaps, the memory of the fees abstracted from them when they had to pass their examination—(laughter)—or that, having passed the examination, the Society had not been able to confer upon them all the benefits that they thought they ought to have. The Society did very well on the whole; in fact, it did the best it could under the circumstances, and he gave the toast coupled with the name of their worthy President—that illustrious pharmacist, Mr. William Martindale.

Mr. Martindale, in replying, mentioned the duties which the Pharmaceutical Society has to perform, and said the members of the Council were like members of the House of Commons; they were part of the great unpaid, and in this they suffered like members of the House by being one of the most criticised and most maligned bodies in the United Kingdom. They, unfortunately, had their past, and they suffered in both cases from the doings of their predecessors. They had their Majuba Hill, and had to suffer for it; he referred to the judgment of the House of Lords some twenty years ago. The only conclusion that the Council could come to was to oppose Clause 2 of the Companies Bill. They could not accept the condition of pharmacy as given in that clause. (Loud applause.) The House of Lords' judgment gave chemists' assistants a more important position in pharmacy than they had previously held, as they took the place, to a certain extent, of the qualified keeper of an open shop, and afterwards, by what was known as the Wheeldon case, a

W.M. MURRELL, M.D., F.R.C.P.



seller of poison was held to be the actual seller, and must be a qualified pharmacist. He trusted that assistants would be true to their calling, and would uphold the dignity of their position as educated and trained pharmacists. If they would remember this, they would come to be something better than chemists' assistants—to be employers themselves, and not servants of limited liability companies. Referring to Dr. Murrell's remarks, Mr. Martindale said he was sorry that pharmacy was not better taught in hospitals than at the present time. The ready-made system of medicines might have something to do with that. It was more convenient in many ways; but it did not enable a medical practitioner always to select the drugs he required for any particular case. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Hymans was to have proposed the toast of

"THE VISITORS,"

but the Toastmaster, for some unexplained reason, announced the response first; but Mr. Charles Umney, who had to respond, was equal to the occasion. He remarked that although forty years ago there was no Chemists' Assistants' Association, all the young men of that day attended the evening meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society. (Applause.) He was sorry to say that they did not do so now, and he thought, perhaps, the reason was that the exigencies of business of the past were not so great as those of these later days. But the evening meetings were still held, and he hoped that the younger members to whom he spoke would endeavour to attend them as their predecessors had done. (Applause.)

During the evening a selection of instrumental and vocal music was given by Mr. Will Ballard, Mr. Leslie Lawson, and Mr. W. Neal Ellis, and the company dispersed about 11 o'clock, after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

NOTTINGHAM CHEMISTS' DINNER.

The thirty-first annual dinner of the Nottingham and Notts Chemists' Association took place on March 8 at the Albert Hotel, Nottingham. There was a large and representative assembly, over which Councillor R. Fitzhugh, J.P. (President of the Society for twenty-two years), presided. The toast of "The Queen" having been accorded musical honours,

Mr. A. Russell Bennet proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain." He said the Council of the Society was not sufficiently representative; there were too many London members on it. He was of opinion that pharmaceutical territorial representation, so to speak, would do more for the Society than anything else. There were twenty-one members on the Council, and they ought to come from twenty-one constituencies in England and Scotland. Then half the gentlemen on the Council, he believed, were in possession of higher-class businesses. They did not feel the brunt of commercialism as others did. Another sore point about the Pharmaceutical Society was the examinations. He had had a good deal to do with the preparation of young men, and he thought the Minor examination at present was far too searching in science and too lacking in commercialism.

Mr. F. R. Sergeant, Local Secretary for Nottingham, in the course of his reply, said it gave him pleasure to help them to reduce their incomes by taking a guinea from them, and to help the Society to prosecute those people who broke the laws. During his tour amongst them, which had not yet been completed, he had heard many pleasant remarks, but he had also met with some gentlemen who had thought that they had not had their guinea's worth during the past year. He would represent to those gentlemen that Rome was not built in a day, and would ask them to leave the fate of the Pharmaceutical Society in the hands of their leaders for a little longer. The Society was working under difficulties which were gradually being surmounted. After paying a tribute to Mr. C. A. Bolton for his yeoman service to the Society, Mr. Sergeant, speaking of the continued prosperity of the Society, said he had already been to twenty chemists and had got six new members. Nottingham had come out more strongly for the Society than any other part of the country. During the ensuing year the Society would enter upon a new system of examination which he thought would be beneficial. He believed it would keep many men

out of the profession who ought never to enter it. The higher and more difficult the examination, the more likely were they to get a better stamp of men in their ranks. Personally he would very much like to see the Minor examination divided. If a young man at the conclusion of his three years' apprenticeship could be examined, say, in botany, *materia medica*, and prescription-reading, it would be a distinct advantage, for he could devote his energies to these subjects only. This passed, the remainder of his apprenticeship could be given to the more strictly scientific subjects of chemistry, and physics.

Mr. E. Squire (President of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society), who proposed "The Nottingham and Notts Chemists' Association," said whenever they took up their journals they saw that the Nottingham Association was doing something. They were, he said, at Nottingham blessed with good officials who had acted in their various capacities for many years, and might rightly be termed permanent officials. Other associations were not so fortunate. Their President (Councillor Fitzhugh) had informed him he was only a figurehead, but in his opinion it was something to have a figurehead like Mr. Fitzhugh, who had been honoured by filling the highest civic position the ratepayers of Nottingham could confer upon him. They were proud of him, and also of their Secretary (Mr. Eberlin), whom he had known for a long time. Mr. Eberlin was apprenticed in his (the speaker's) present business, and was a thorough worker. Mr. Squire referred to the pharmaceutical classes held at the University College, and stated that Sheffield was taking a leaf out of the Nottingham book, but in Sheffield there was a lack of students.

The President, responding, said he saw many members round him who had taken advantage of their Association, and now held a very prominent position in the trade in the city. He hoped that those who were coming after them might be fortunate enough to attain to positions similar to those in which some of the older members had made their fortunes. He also trusted that they would have some of their young members representatives on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and hoped they would endeavour to do all they could for the advancement of those chemists who were so unfortunate as to be in the provinces.

Mr. R. H. Beverley (Vice-President of the Association) also spoke of the great benefit which he had derived from the Association for thirty years. He should like to see members of the trade backing up the Association better than they had done in the past. Their President was not a mere figurehead—he was the Lord Roberts of the Association.

Mr. Eberlin followed with an interesting speech, in which he said that a passage in Voltaire occurred to him in which the writer said the necessity of having to say something, the perplexity of having nothing to say, and the desire to be witty were enough to floor anyone. (Loud laughter.) He had nothing in particular to say, and the only thing remaining was to be witty, in which respect he was afraid he would be a failure. To those chemists in the city who did not see any good in their Association, he could only say there was one thing which they did, and if nothing else were done this would justify their existence—that was the holding of the annual dinner. If they never had a scientific paper or a commercial paper read to them, the function in which they were taking part that evening was enough to induce them to keep the Association in existence. They had the necessary machinery ready to bring them into touch with the Legislature on some important matter. It also enabled them to keep in touch with the local members of Parliament. They had recently been attacked in public most inaccurately on the position they had taken up as an Association, and therefore it was necessary that they should be in a position to defend themselves. This was close upon the fortieth year of their existence, and during that time the Association had never been stronger than it was at the present moment. Its membership was now 55 or 56, and when the others who were waiting to be proposed had been enrolled it would be at least 60 strong. The course adopted by the Council with respect to qualified assistants was a very wise one, and was bringing into the Society the element they most desired.

Mr. R. Frank W. Vallance (Mansfield) gave "Prosperity to the City of Nottingham," and Mr. E. Gascoyne replied.

Mr. A. E. Bielby, in a humorous speech, proposed "The Visitors," for whom Mr. E. Squire and Mr. P. S. Clay (the

Chief Constable of the city) responded. Afterwards "The Chairman" was toasted in felicitous terms by Mr. C. A. Bolton, and Mr. Fitzhugh briefly replied.

In the course of the evening a capital musical programme was gone through, the following gentlemen contributing:—Messrs. P. S. Clay, G. F. Sands, A. C. Vallance, Bert Clarke, and W. Brinson. Mr. H. Woodhouse was an efficient accompanist.

EXETER CHEMISTS SUP.

On March 13 the annual supper of the Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists was held at Wilson's Guildhall Restaurant. The newly-elected President (Mr. T. C. Milton) was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. After the supper and "The Queen" had been suitably honoured, Mr. C. J. Moor proposed "The Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists." He said if the different chemists' associations throughout the country adopted the plan of the Exeter chemists, and elected their local analysts members, a good deal of friction would be removed.

The President, who was received with musical honours, emphasised the good feeling and unanimity which existed among the chemists of Exeter. Certainly there was a good deal of competition, but that was essential. They, however, could strengthen their hands very materially by uniting and meeting together to discuss matters of pharmacy. At their last meeting Mr. Moor told them many useful things, showing them what things to avoid and what to look after. He expressed the hope that in future not only Exeter chemists generally would attend but also their managers and assistants. Alderman Gadd proposed "The Visitors," to which Mr. F. W. Kitts replied. Mr. D. Reid suggested that arrangements should be made for the holding of an outing next summer, if possible, in conjunction with the Plymouth and District Association, and the suggestion was referred to committee. A musical programme was well gone through.

BUSY BOTTLE-MAKERS.

On Saturday evening, March 10, Mr. Hearn, of Hearns (Limited), of the Eclipse Glassworks, Clapton, N.E., entertained the male members of the staff of the company to dinner in Queen Anne's Restaurant, Cheapside. The tables were prettily decorated with Hearn lamps, such as are to be used on Peace day. It was a very happy gathering, and we learnt in the course of conversation with Mr. Hearn that the dinner marked a good performance by his workmen during the past winter. Some time ago, when the bottle-business became exceedingly brisk, and glass-blowers were inclined to put the screw upon their employers, Mr. Hearn and his employés came to an amicable arrangement which resulted in the increase of their wages. Mr. Hearn promised them that if they worked well and enabled him to meet competition, he would give them a dinner. He now fulfilled the promise; and the enjoyable evening was as well appreciated by the few personal guests of Mr. Hearn who were present as by the gentlemen who sported khaki ties. Mine host served a well-cooked dinner, and the musical entertainment after it was of the best. Mr. Tom Clare began that part of the proceedings with a pianoforte solo and a raey song; then came Mr. Horace Probyn, who sang patriotic songs in excellent style, and in the course of the evening both these gentlemen did good service musically. Miss Maud Fowler, who was principal boy at the Drury Lane Theatre last year, sang "Killarney," following it with "The Jewel of Asia." Miss Ruby Verde came straight from the Crystal Palace to amuse the gathering, and sang several songs, finishing up with a dance; while Mr. Greener, one of the staff, who has designs upon the music-hall stage, sang comic songs in good style. Speeches were not lacking during the evening, "Success to the Business" being heartily toasted, and responded to by Mr. Thornton, the secretary of the company. Mr. Hearn's good health was drunk with musical honours, and in his brief reply he thanked his men for the manner in which they had supported him during the past year, and hoped the good relations existing between them, would continue.

THE LONDON BOTTLE EXCHANGE.

The fourteenth annual dinner of the Mineral-water Bottle Exchange and Trade Protection Society (Limited) was held at the Hotel Cecil on the evening of March 8, when Mr. W.

Adpar Jones, of Idris (Limited), the new President of the Society, presided over a company numbering nearly 200. Amongst those present were Messrs. Mark Beaufoy, E. S. Crick (Barrett & Co., Limited), E. K. Bishop (Idris & Co.), who were Vice-Chairmen; R. W. Christy Strong, of Reading; Morgan (William Hay, Limited), H. T. Butler (of Camwal), and Hewett (Geraut & Co.). After an excellent dinner, in the course of which cigarettes were served along with the punch *à la Romaine* (a diversion which tickled many of the company), the Chairman gave the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" in a happy little speech; and Mr. Mark Beaufoy awakened the enthusiasm by his eloquence in speaking of "our gallant defenders in the South—the Army, Navy, Volunteers, and Colonial Forces," to which toasts Mr. MacKenzie, as an old soldier, replied.

Before the toast of the evening came on, Mr. Jones, on behalf of the office-bearers of the Society, presented Mr. E. S. Crick, the ex-President, with a silver salver and silver tea-and-coffee service, along with an illuminated address, thanking him for the good work he had done on behalf of the Society during his four years' presidency. Mr. Jones spoke of Mr. Crick in terms of affectionate admiration, and the presentation aroused the enthusiasm of the meeting. Mr. Crick replied in feeling terms.

"Success to the Society" was submitted by Mr. Richard Johnson, J.P., President of the National Union of Mineral-water Manufacturers, who spoke of the influence of the Society upon the provincial aerated-water trade, and congratulated the Society upon the courage shown in making a charge for bottles—an example which he hoped the National Union would be able to follow. Mr. Walter Davenport, Secretary of the Society, replied.

In the course of his speech he stated that during the past twelve months no fewer than two millions of bottles passed through the Society's hands and were returned to their proprietors, but this number is three millions less than were handled five years ago, and is a proof of the effectiveness of the measures instituted by the Society for diminishing the waste in bottles. Mr. Davenport had no doubt that the regular enforcement of the charge had much to do with it. He also appealed to the members to support the Benevolent Fund which the Council had started, and which had been the means of relieving several who had been unfortunate during the past year.

The President next proposed "The National Union and Kindred Societies." He said this Union was formed thirteen years ago, and kindred societies sent delegates to it. Mr. Johnson has been its president for ten years, and was preceded in office by his (the speaker's) partner (Mr. T. H. W. Idris). The Union had done excellent work for the mineral-water makers of Great Britain and Ireland. It gave advice and did battle for the members, and in parliamentary and other matters concerning the trade the National Union had proved its value to the mineral-water trade.

Mr. B. Murdoch, of Portsmouth, replying, said they did not meet on this annual occasions in London simply for the dinner, but to talk of the trade in which they were all interested, and endeavour to assist each other.

Mr. Thomas Adams (Ray & Sons), in proposing "Guests and Visitors," remarked upon the manner in which the status of the trade had been raised, so that what was twenty years ago a hawking business, was now on a sound commercial basis, and an industry to be reckoned with. An immense amount of capital had been sunk in the business by men of commerce who knew the wants and requirements of the populace, and there was not one mineral-water manufacturer who was not regarded with esteem by the public.

Mr. Geo. Taylor and Mr. G. A. C. Hussey (Mayor of



THE PRESIDENT.



THE SECRETARY.

Portsmouth) replied, after which Mr. Daveuport proposed the President's good health—(applause)—and prosperity to his firm. Mr. Adpar Jones had always shown himself a very astute and judicious member of the London Society; and there was no doubt he would make a very good President. (Applause.) The President, on rising, received quite an ovation. He said he felt highly flattered by this token of their good will. He felt proud to be President of the London Society, and also of the banquet where they had representatives of their trade from Yorkshire, Southampton, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. If he could be of any service to the trade he was at their disposal; and he felt sure he would do them good if backed up by the very excellent Secretary, Walter Davenport. (Applause).

The musical programme was good, and it kept the diners together for some hours after dessert.

EDINBURGH ASSISTANTS' SUPPER.

The annual supper of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association took place on March 9, in the Imperial Hotel, when upwards of eighty members and friends assembled. Mr. Fraser McDiarmid (President) occupied the chair, and Messrs. D. Harley (Vice-President) and J. Lennox (Secretary) acted as croupiers. Among others present were Mr. George Lunan, Mr. W. L. Currie (Glasgow), Mr. J. P. Gilmour (Glasgow), Dr. Coull, Messrs. Bowman, Henry Cunningham, Rainy Brown, Cowie, Duncan, Lothian, Taylor, McDougall, and McBain. The toast of "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces" was acknowledged by Mr. John Bowman, an old Volunteer, and father of Lance-Corporal Bowman, chemist and druggist, now serving under Lord Roberts as a Volunteer-compounder. Mr. J. Lennox, in proposing "The Pharmaceutical Society," expressed satisfaction with the good that the Pharmacy Bill of 1898 had done. He did not think the Council was a correct reflex of the Society, but thought a new complexion would come over the construction of the Council in the near future as a result of interest among the younger men. Speaking of the Companies Bill, he said Mr. Smith had erred in saying the Federation view was the Scotch view on this subject. [Mr. Smith disclaims this; see *C. & D.*, February 24, page 351.—EDITOR.] The Scotch view was to secure the exclusive use of titles and a regulation of company-pharmacy that would secure control by registered chemists. On the question of dividing the Minor examination, Mr. Lennox remarked that the Council seemed wedded to the idea of uniting a compulsory curriculum to any plan for division. Mr. Boa had said if a division was necessary with a curriculum it was more necessary without it. He observed also that in introducing the discussion on the 1898 Bill, Mr. Hills, the then President, said he was in favour of dividing the examination. He sincerely trusted the matter would not be lost sight of, because the present state of affairs called for early amendment. In the absence of Mr. Boa, owing to family bereavement, the toast was acknowledged by Mr. Lunan, who remarked, with regard to Clause 2, it seemed the view of the Council that the reply of the President of the Board of Trade left no other course open to them. With regard to the proposal for a qualified directorate, he thought the opinion of Scotland was against that as quite unworkable. They were also quite convinced that whatever might have been possible twenty years ago, they must recognise the fact that company-pharmacy had come to stay, and that no policy was possible other than that of securing some satisfactory regulation. He thought the Association had done well in calling attention to the division of the Minor examination, and suggested that they should devote an evening to eliciting the views of the members on the subject. It was being considered in the inner circles of the Council, and any light on the subject would be useful. One point he wanted to emphasise about the Companies Bill was that the crux of the whole situation was the protection of titles. If that were sufficiently secured they had not much to fear. Mr. J. P. Gilmour, in an eloquent speech, proposed "The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association," which was acknowledged by the President. Mr. Rutherford Hill proposed "Kindred Associations," to which, for the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, Mr. C. F. Henry (Secretary) replied. For the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association, Mr. W. L. Currie replied, and, in doing so, said that companies had come to stay, and what chemists had to do

was to see that they carried on the business of dispensing and selling poisons in a perfectly legal manner. The qualified-directorate idea was of no use. He did not think they would obtain the sole right to sell and dispense medicines, and should therefore insist that companies carrying on a drug-business must do so by the hands of a registered man, and that his name must appear in a conspicuous position both on the place of business and on labels. The Council had taken a very long time to give any lead, and were therefore much to blame. Even when the Bill was actually before the House they were not even unanimous in opposing the obnoxious clause. What they expected to gain by such halfheartedness he could not imagine. They certainly would not gain the confidence of the chemists of the country. They were told they must accept Clause 2 or nothing; then by all means let them oppose, and seek to preserve the titles to which they were legally and morally entitled. Mr. Taylor replied for the Glasgow Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association. The evening's proceedings were enlivened by songs, &c., by Messrs. Currie, Murray, Alexander, Rowland, Tait, and Crichton, the latter acting also as accompanist. Dr. Coull proposed "The Chairman," who replied, and a pleasant evening concluded with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen."

THE PHARMACEUTICAL DINNER.

A meeting of the members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on March 14, when it was decided that the annual dinner would be held on Tuesday, May 15, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, and a small committee was appointed to make the arrangements. A fair response to the invitations to act as stewards was reported, and it was decided that the price of the tickets should be one guinea (including wines). These are obtainable from Mr. Bremridge at the above address.

Oil of Orange.

A New Constituent.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc.

OIL of orange is known to contain about 90 to 95 per cent. of the terpene limonene, small quantities of the aldehydes citral, citronellal, and an aldehyde still unnamed, discovered by Flatau and Labbé, and, according to the same chemists, myristicool and myristinic acid, and an ester whose acid contains 21 atoms of carbon in the molecule. During some work, still in progress, on this oil I have been able to detect a very small quantity of a body hitherto recognised in only one other essential oil. This body is the methyl ester of ortho-amido benzoic acid (methyl anthranilate), which the brothers Erdmann and Schimmel & Co. announced they had discovered in oil of neroli. Fifteen hundred c.c. of sweet-orange oil were distilled under a pressure of 10 to 15 mm., until 95 per cent. was collected; the remaining 5 per cent. was treated with alkaline solution of cyanacetic acid to absorb the aldehyde, and the residue was separated and freed from moisture. This was found to possess a marked and exceedingly fine fluorescence. It was then thoroughly extracted with dilute hydrochloric acid, and the aqueous layer separated. This was rendered alkaline with caustic-potash solution, and then extracted with ether. The ethereal solution was characteristically fluorescent, and left on evaporation of the solvent a very small quantity of an oil with an odour somewhat resembling neroli, and which was identical in all its properties with ordinary synthetic methyl anthranilate. I hope later to isolate a larger quantity of this body, when the anthranilic acid can be separated, and a determination of its melting-point will definitely prove the identity of the ester.

134 Upper Thames Street, E.C.,

March 12.

Deaths.

ALLEN.—On March 10, at the Medical Hall, Capel Street, Dublin, Mr. J. T. Wheeler Allen, second son of Dr. C. A. Allen, Portobello. Aged 42.

BOA.—At Rose Cottage, Dailly, Ayrshire, on March 5, Mr. Andrew Boa, late of Balkail, Glenluce, father of Mr. Peter Boa, pharmaceutical chemist, 119 George Street, Edinburgh. Aged 70.

BURLEY.—At Edinburgh on March 13, Mr. William Burley, chemist and druggist, 35 George Street, from influenza which latterly took the form of blood-poisoning. Aged 51. Mr. Burley served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. George Burrell, of Montrose, and afterwards went to Edinburgh and passed the Minor in 1874. Subsequently he became manager of the late Mr. John Mackay's retail pharmacy in George Street—a position which he relinquished on Mr. Mackay's death, when he started in business on his own account in the same street. In 1896 he acquired Messrs. James Robertson & Co.'s pharmacy at 35 George Street. He was a member of the North British Branch Executive.

EVANS.—At Denbigh, on February 27, Mr. Thomas Benson Evans, chemist and druggist. Aged 44.

ILEY.—At Wolsingham, Durham, on March 1, Mr. John Iley, chemist and druggist. Aged 58.

MCDIARMID.—At Deal, on March 7, Mr. John Buckwell McDiarmid, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 70. Mr. McDiarmid opened a pharmacy in Park Street, Deal, in 1857, and carried on business there for many years.

MALCOLM.—At 3 High Road, Willesden Green, on March 10, Ellen Frances, wife of Mr. James Malcolm, chemist. Aged 32.

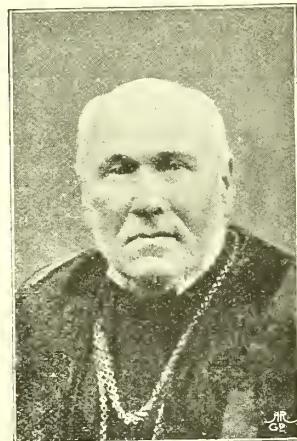
MALTBY.—At Lincoln, on March 7, Alderman Joseph Maltby, chemist and druggist. Aged 70. Alderman Maltby (a member of the firm of Battle, Son & Maltby) had for many years been one of the foremost citizens of Lincoln, and was Mayor in 1873. He served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. Spencer, chemist and druggist, Cornhill, Lincoln, and subsequently removed to Nottingham. On returning to Lincoln he entered the pharmacy of the late Alderman J. R. Battle, by whom he was eventually taken into partnership. Later on the firm became known as Battle, Son and Maltby, and they carried on an extensive business near the Stonebow. Mr. Maltby in 1867 entered the Town Council, and in 1880 he was elected an Alderman, a position he held till his death. He was Chairman of the Waterworks Committee of the City Council and of the Lincoln Tramway Company. He was a Wesleyan, and took great interest in the day schools connected with the Lincoln Wesley Chapel. The funeral, which took place on March 10, was largely attended, amongst the mourners being the Mayor, members of the Town Council, and representatives of the public bodies.

SAYERS.—On March 7, Mr. William John Sayers, chemist and druggist, Lewisham, S.E. Aged 63. Mr. Sayers was born at Great Yarmouth in 1836, and was apprenticed to Mr. Robert Silver of that town, in June, 1850, so that he would have completed his pharmaceutical jubilee this year. After his apprenticeship he commenced business on his own account in Leiston, Suffolk, but went to Lewisham in 1862, and built up an excellent business there, which latterly, owing to his indifferent health, has been carried on by his son, Mr. William Charles Sayers, pharmaceutical chemist. Mr. Sayers was highly respected in Lewisham, and his funeral at Lee Cemetery on Tuesday reflected the general regard for him, the coffin and hearse being covered with floral emblems. Amongst the mourners were Mr. W. C. Sayers (son), Mr. T. J. Woofe, F.R.C.V.S., and Dr. W. H. Paine (sons-in-law), Messrs. Elkington, C. Martin, N. Sherwood, and W. Watson Will.

WATSON.—On February 28, at Preston, Mr. James Burscough Watson, chemist and druggist. Aged 91.

WATT.—At the Retreat, Haddington, N.B., on March 11, after an apoplectic seizure, Mr. James Watt, pharmaceutical chemist, and a former member of the Pharmaceutical Council. Aged 77. It was late in life before Mr. James Watt appeared in the arena of pharmaceutical politics—viz.,

in the early eighties—and already he had acquired a local reputation as an administrator, having served on the Haddington Town Council for forty years, and been Provost of the Ancient Burgh. He was a native of Lybster, Caithness, and served his apprenticeship with Mr. Bremner, of Thurso. He started in business on his own account in Haddington in 1845, and in 1853 became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society; but it was not until the revolution of the North British Branch commenced in 1884 that Mr. Watt identified himself more closely with its interests than as local secretary; then he came forward as a strong but temperate advocate of the retention of the title "North British Branch," and the reasonable views which he showed ultimately led to his appointment as convener of the deputation (consisting of Messrs. A. Noble, Edinburgh, Dr. Storrar, Kirkcaldy, A. Strachan, Aberdeen, and himself) to the Council in London in July, 1886. His consummate tact on that occasion had much to do with the settlement of the dispute between the Council and the Scotch members of the Society. In the following year, when Mr. John Borland retired from the Council, Mr. Watt was nominated to take his place, but was not elected, and was again defeated in 1888, but in 1889 he was elected. As a member of the Council he won the respect of his colleagues on account of his wide knowledge of affairs, and although he was inclined to be "agin the government," his cheerful nature and gentlemanly bearing rather heightened the regard for him. He and Mr. Gwilym Evans worked together against the Carteige policy of their time. He held office until 1892, when he retired. We then said: "For some years Mr. Watt has been gradually withdrawing from public life. After filling the position of chief magistrate of his town for more than twenty years he resigned it a few years ago. It was only his pronounced opinions in regard to the autonomy of the North British Branch which induced him to take a leading part in the dispute of six years since, and his election to a seat on the Council was the logical outcome of his outspoken services to Scottish pharmacy." Mr. Watt also retired from the executive of the Branch. After the death a few years ago of his son, Mr. James Watt, jun., who was associated with him in business, he took Mr. W. P. Wilson into partnership and practically retired. Mrs. Watt survives him, also a son (Mr. Francis Watt, a barrister) and several daughters. The funeral took place on Wednesday.



Recent Wills.

BINDLOSS.—The will of Mr. Herbert Meynill Bindloss, chemist and druggist, 116 Craven Park Road, Harlesden, who died on October 26, 1899, at Ventnor, has been proved by Mr. Geo. Warren Bindloss, of Meldreth, brother and sole executor of the testator whose estate is sworn at 1,731*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, the net personality being 1,649*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*

JEFFRIES.—At Somerset House the will of the late Mr. Edward Jeffries, chemist and druggist, 2 Heaton Place, Peckham Rye, S.E., who died on April 3, 1898, has been proved by Mr. Edward Coles Jeffries and Mr. John Moodie, solicitor, the executors of the testator, whose estate was sworn at 16,074*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*

PADDOCK.—The will of Mr. Thos. Paddock, chemist and druggist, 149 Derby Road, Kirkdale, Liverpool, who died on September 22, 1899, has been proved by Margaret Paddock, widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose estate was sworn at 4,124*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

WILLIAMS.—The will of the late Mr. Miles Williams, chemist, Bootle and Wigan, has been proved by his widow and executrix, Mrs. Margaret Williams, by whom the deceased's personality was sworn at 626*l.* 6*s.*

Corner for Students.

PHARMACY.

AQUÆ.

THE medicated waters of the Pharmacopœia are, with two exceptions, prepared by distillation, the exceptions being camphor and chloroform waters, which are made by simple solution. In the case of the former, the camphor is dissolved in spirit, and the solution shaken up with water. The strength is 1 in 1,000, which is a shade weaker than the camphor-water of the old B.P., a saturated solution of camphor being about $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. in 1 oz., or 1 in 875. Chloroform-water is prepared by shaking chloroform in water until dissolved, the strength being 1 in 400. All the other medicated waters are prepared by distillation of the leaves, flowers, fruits, or essential oils, as the case may be, with water.

The waters may be defined as aqueous saturated solutions of essential oils. Cherry-laurel water contains hydrocyanic acid, the amount of this being adjusted to 1 in 1,000. Orange-flower water and rose-water are directed to be prepared from the orange-flower and rose waters of commerce, which are to be diluted immediately before use with twice their volume of distilled water. No directions are given for the preparation of distilled water itself further than that it is to be made from "good natural potable water." The tests are a sufficient guarantee that the usual precautions have been observed—namely, rejecting the first portion of the distillate and stopping the process before the contents of the retort are boiled to dryness. The application of Nessler's reagent (potassio-mercuric iodide solution) proves the presence or absence of ammonia, and solution of potassium permanganate is used to indicate the extent to which organic matter may be present.

DISTILLATION

is the art of evaporating a liquid by heat and condensing the volatile portion by means of a suitable cooling-arrangement. The essential parts of a distillation-apparatus are the still or retort, the condenser, and the receiver. The still is that part of the apparatus in which the liquid is boiled, and it may be made of metal, glass, or earthenware. Retorts or stills for the distillation of water are usually made of copper or other metal. The water to be distilled is placed in the retort, and heat is applied until it boils. The steam is conducted to the condenser, which usually consists of a long tube surrounded by cold water, through which the steam is passed. As the cold water maintains the tube constantly at a low temperature, the vapour is condensed. On the large scale this tube is coiled into a "worm," and placed in a tub of water. Liebig's condenser consists of an inner and an outer tube, the space between the two being filled with water. The steam is condensed as it passes along the inner tube, and, the natural tendency being for the water in the jacket to be warmed by the evolution of the heat previously latent, a constant current of cold water flows through the outer tube in order to keep the inner tube cool. The receiver consists of any vessel suitable for the purpose, its object simply being the collection of the condensed liquid or distillate.

Distillation may be used to separate one class of liquids from another or to purify a liquid, the latter being the case in the preparation of distilled water. Volatile impurities come over with the first portion of the vapour, and this part of the distillate is rejected; while the solid impurities are retained behind in the liquid left in the still when the process has been stopped.

Fractional distillation consists in separating different portions of a liquid by distilling at different temperatures. An example of this is seen in the preparation of carbolic acid, which is prepared by fractional distillation from coal-tar oil. The temperature must not exceed 182° C., otherwise cresol compounds distil over; these are uncrySTALLISABLE and less valuable as antiseptics.

ADIPES.

Four lards are recognised by the B.P.—namely, prepared lard, benzoated lard, wool-fat, and hydrous wool-fat. Pre-

pared lard is defined as the purified fat of the hog. After removing the membranes from the abdominal fat, the latter is suspended so that it is freely exposed to the air for some hours, the object being to get rid of the animal odour which always clings to a freshly-slaughtered carcase. The lard is then melted and strained in order to remove the last traces of membrane. Lard has a melting-point of about 37.8° C.; it should not be rancid, and should be free from chlorides and starch. It is frequently adulterated with cottonseed oil, lard oil having been expressed from the lard and cottonseed oil put in its place. The darkening of colour on the addition of alcoholic solution of silver nitrate is said to indicate the presence of the adulterant, but the test is not quite conclusive, as cottonseed oil may be present even though darkening does not take place. Benzoated lard is prepared by heating benzoin and lard on a water-bath for two hours and straining. The product is a solution of benzoic acid or benzoic and cinnamic acids in the lard, whereby the keeping-properties of the lard are improved. It saves trouble to use a simple tincture of benzoin, but this course, though frequently recommended, has not been made official. Adeps lanæ is the purified cholesterol-fat of sheep's wool. The fat is separated from wool in the course of the washing-process. The soap-washings, instead of being acidified as in the old way of making suint or Yorkshire grease, are passed through a centrifugal separator by which the wool-fat is de-emulsified just as cream is separated from milk. The fat is afterwards purified by solvents, the object of the manufacturer being to free it as far as possible from the waxy cholesterolins which give wool-fat its sticky property. Wool-fat absorbs a large quantity of water. The B.P. directs 7 oz. to be rubbed in a warm mortar and 3 oz. of water added and triturated during cooling. Adeps lanæ can be made to absorb much more water than this, but it is always necessary that the trituration be carried out as directed by the Pharmacopœia.

ANSWER TO INQUIRY.

HYDROCYANIC-ACID EQUATION (18/43 N. B. S.).—If you examine Mr. Adie's equation you will observe that $50\text{H}_2\text{O}$ has been written in place of 5OH_2 . Such slips as this may be turned to advantage by students. The water is necessary to the reaction, for, as Mr. Adie clearly pointed out, the reaction varies with the amount of water present.

COLLEGE NOTES.

THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY recently opened in Nottingham by Mr. A. Russell Bennet, pharmaceutical chemist, is steadily increasing its membership and popularity. The laboratories and class-rooms are very complete, and have been specially fitted up for the teaching of pharmaceutical students.

SHEFFIELD COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—On Tuesday, March 13, the students of this College visited the grounds and conservatories of Major W. G. Blake, J.P., and Mr. F. A. Kelley, Ecclesall. The afternoon's outing was much enjoyed. Among the plants seen in flower were:—*Skimmia japonica* (*Celastraceæ*), fruit; *Acalypha Sanderiana* (*Euphorbiaceæ*), pendulous spike of red flowers; *Epidendrum Stamfordianum*, *Dendrobium Luckianum*, and *Laelia harpophylla* (*Orchidaceæ*); *Frezia refracta* (*Liliaceæ*); and a fine tree of *Garrya elliptica* (s.c. *incompleta*), with drooping male catkins.

LONDON COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—On Friday, March 9, Mr. Griffith Edwards, Ph.C., who was formerly on this College staff, was presented with an illuminated address, a fountain-pen, and a silver cigarette-case by the students of the College. Mr. H. Wootton, B.Sc., presided, and, in course of his remarks, referred to Mr. Edwards's capability as a teacher, and expressed regret at losing so efficient and genial a co-worker. Mr. Fredk. Ashford, in making the presentation, expressed the hope that in the medical profession, into which Mr. Edwards is shortly to enter, he would meet with every possible success. Mr. Edwards, who was heartily cheered, thanked the students for their presents, and wished them all success in their pharmaceutical examinations. The Presentation Committee consisted of Messrs. Ashford, Bowen, Howitt, Powell, and Smith.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE DIPLOMACY of Messrs. Martindale and Carteighe was no doubt hampered when they interviewed Mr. Ritchie by their knowledge of the chaotic condition of opinion among their colleagues on the Council; but, whatever may be the excuse, the interview certainly was not a triumph. To ask that pharmacy might be treated like medicine or dentistry was a good enough card to open the game with, but with that alone in their hands the journey to Westminster was little more than a waste of a cab-fare. The pharmaceutical delegates do not seem to have touched upon the question of titles at all, though there is no disagreement among their constituents in regard to this point. It would have been at least interesting to hear how Mr. Ritchie would have defended the shameless proposal that a company which can afford to hire a pharmaceutical chemist may thereby acquire the right to describe itself as one. John Jones, perhaps, has no idea what the words "pil." and "tinct." stand for; but, no matter how little he knows, John Jones (Limited) may for cash acquire the right to describe himself as a pharmaceutical chemist. That, at least, is what Lord Halsbury and Mr. Ritchie propose to enact.

* * * *

MR. STORRAR says that to insist on qualified directors would be no good, because, though you can make qualified directors, the law cannot compel them to take an active part in the direction of the business. It can, however, and will, hold them responsible if they neglect their duties, as scores of cases testify. The law, in fact, regards them just as it regards trustees who have accepted certain responsibilities. They, and not their servants, are the persons to whom the public would look. But Mr. Storrar misses the principal point. The unqualified capitalists who at present run drug-businesses know very well the risk of allowing nominated directors to spend their money, and they simply would not take it. If they thus put a beggar on their company horse, the law says they must give him the reins; and if he then rides away with the horse, or lets the horse run away with him, they have no remedy. The result of insisting on a qualified directorate would therefore be the withdrawal of the unqualified capitalist from a field which it would not pay him to cultivate.

* * * *

"PROFESSOR OF PHARMACEUTICS," Sir Michael Foster's modification of the present title of Professor of *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy, is a designation which is pretty sure to secure favour. "*Materia medica*" was the exact Latin translation of the title of the famous treatise of Dioscorides Περὶ ὕλης Ἰατρικῆς, and it expresses its meaning perfectly. But it never could become anglicised, and has always been like a stranded wreck in our language. Pharmaceutics does not mean quite the same thing, but there is no reason why it should not come to do so, and the name corresponds with those of mathematics, physics, therapeutics, and other varieties of learning. At the same time, it is difficult to see in what respect "pharmaceutics" is superior to "pharmacy," which is a nice compact word, and one which cannot raise troublesome complications between the singular and the plural, as pharmaceutics does or do.

* * * *

THE TAX ON CONTRACTS for the sale of produce is not a serious grievance, nor would it be worth protesting against if it were regarded as a merely temporary measure. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer evidently intends it to remain

side by side with the tax on Stock Exchange transactions. This would be reasonable if it were possible to apply the duty exclusively to those speculative dealings in produce referred to editorially last week. They stand in relation to real trade transactions as luxuries do to necessities. A tax on contracts of sale is expressly condemned by Adam Smith. He alludes to it as it was imposed in Spain and Naples in his time on an infinitely larger scale, and in a far more vexatious manner, than is dreamed of in this country. The Spanish tax was 6 per cent. and the Neapolitan tax 3 per cent. on the sale of every kind of property, movable and immovable. To this, Adam Smith says, "Ustaritz imputes the ruin of the manufactures of Spain, and he might have imputed to it, likewise, the declemion of agriculture, it being imposed not only on manufactures, but upon the rude produce of the land." It is to be hoped Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will not take such risks as this for the sake of 150,000*l.* a year.

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DUTCH DROPS, which, as the article published last week shows, retain their popularity among the Boers, are also still asked for in this country, and probably every chemist and druggist keeps a few in stock. Who makes them? There is, I believe, no suggestion of anybody claiming a proprietary right in the title, and if they are imported from Holland the makers there manage to keep themselves well concealed. Alpe tells us that "until recently the supply was brought from oversea by foreign sailors, but the medicine is now kept in stock by one or more of the wholesale medicine-vendors." The idea of depending for a supply on foreign sailors is so queer that it is difficult to believe there was ever any sufficient foundation for it. The wholesale medicine-vendors could probably tell us more about the manufacture, but it is hardly likely they will. I suspect their Haarlems are only a few steps below their ground floors.

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MR. BOOT'S ADVERTISEMENT quoted on page 450 of last week's *C. & D.*, in which he gives an extract from the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, is, I notice, alleged by that journal to be a misquotation approaching "perilously near to lying." The *P.J.* then requotes its own sentence (funnily enough this is misquoted, though not in a material respect), and then launches invective against Mr. Boot for his "malicious intention," and for his "puerile manifestation of petty spite." Mr. Boot said the *Pharmaceutical Journal* had declared that (private) registered chemists carry on branch shops without qualified assistants. Most other people would have read the sentence in the same way. But the *P.J.* says it stated that this was the position taken by the Government, and adds, "It may be that some chemists keep branch shops in which no qualified assistants are engaged, but the fact, if it be such, is not officially known." [The italics are mine.] Not officially known! And yet only one week previously the same journal had printed a paragraph headed "The Evil of the Branch Shop," expressly endorsing Mr. Ritchie's view, and warning pharmacists who "dissipate their energy and diffuse their qualification over more than one place of business" that the Government might turn its attention to them after it had done regulating company-pharmacy.

EXPORT-DUTY ON LOGWOOD.—By an Ordinance of the Government of British Honduras the export-duty of 50c. per ton on logwood, which was abolished in 1897, has been reimposed.

SULPHURIC ETHER IN THE NETHERLANDS.—A Royal Order has been issued from the Hague, dated January 9, regarding the exemption from import-duties of sulphuric ether required in the preparation of albumen from milk.

more at heart than Mr. Ritchie. Granting, however, that the clause would not be restored, the question still remains for treatment by some other method. No one dreams of leaving it as it is. Representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society have stated that it is their intention to take up the question again in a Pharmacy Bill, and that procedure is recommended by many pharmacists as one which is better suited for getting what is wanted than a general measure is. We have no reason to question the sincerity of these gentlemen, but we want to know—

(1) What principles will be incorporated in a company clause in a Pharmacy Bill which cannot be put forward now.

(2) What prospects there are of getting any principle recognised by a future Parliament which the Government of to-day will not accept.

In regard to the first of these we feel that the Pharmaceutical Council is merely putting off the evil day. The members know that company-pharmacy is growing, and with it vested interests which are so fatal to effective reform. The second question may be answered also with a strong negative. Direct opposition to the Government proposals by the Pharmaceutical Society now means that at no future time will the Government undertake to treat as a Government measure any Pharmacy Bill which includes the company question; it is contrary to all official tradition for any Government Department to assist opponents in legislating upon a question which the Department has had to give way in owing to their opposition. Without Government assistance it is well-nigh impossible to get any private Bill dealing with class privileges through Parliament, and the private members who support such measures must be men of influence in the House. We ask, then, what prospect the Pharmaceutical Society has of getting legislation of its own on the company-question? Again, we reply, NONE WHATEVER. It is significant that the names of the Society's friends in Parliament have not been heard of in respect to this matter. The President has seen Mr. Ritchie, but what of Sir Walter Foster, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. W. F. D. Smith, Sir Michael Foster, and others who know the pharmacist's case well? Has any serious endeavour been made to get them to support the protection of titles with or without qualified directorship or management?

It follows from the foregoing that, if anything is to be done in the company-question, it should be done now, when there is a definite proposal before Parliament. The Pharmaceutical Council has blundered in deciding to get Clause 2 negatived without attempting to remedy it; the Council proposes to capitulate before it has tried the strength of its forces. The scouting which we have been doing during the past month convinces us that there is a fair prospect of fighting for a win. Almost daily we are receiving from different parts of the country assurances that M.P.'s regard the case for the chemist more seriously than the Pharmaceutical Council realises, and if the Council were to use its machinery for amendment of the clause, there would be a better chance of securing reasonable amendment than there is a prospect of defeating it. We are not at all sure that the Council can get the clause removed from the Bill, because a fair number of members of the House of Commons realise that something should be done in the direction proposed, and it is such members who will influence the House or Government—not those who promise to vote against the clause. It remains for chemists individually, and chemists by districts, to say whether they will take the chance of getting the clause amended before they ask their representatives to do what they can to defeat it. We feel that it is the last chance there will be in this generation,

and, if neglected, more extensive violation of the principle of the Pharmacy Act, and further degradation of pharmacy as an art, will be the consequences.

A New Departure.

LAST week the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade inaugurated a new departure in issuing the first number of a monthly statement showing in tabular form the imports and exports of various foreign countries. These returns will in future be issued periodically, and ought to prove of great assistance in showing the progress or otherwise of our commercial competitors. All countries do not publish monthly statements of trade, and the statistics given are necessarily limited to those which do so, but in an introductory note it is stated that most of the countries whose trade principally affects the United Kingdom are included in the compilation. In the present number the returns from France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, the United States, Canada, and British India are included, and these countries may be said to form the most important portion of the world's commerce outside Great Britain. The figures given for 1899, however, cannot altogether be taken as definite, as the values are in the cases of France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Belgium determined by a Commission, instead of, as in this country and the United States, by the declarations of importers and exporters. Last year's figures are therefore provisional only, being based on the values of the preceding year, and are liable to be altered when the Commission makes its report.

First of all we have an interesting comparison of the trade of the leading countries for the past three years, and we cannot do better than give some of the figures. Dealing with the imports first, we find a remarkable progression in most instances:—

—	1897	1898	1899
	£	£	£
Germany ...	234,035,000	254,032,000	259,850,000
Belgium ...	71,781,680	78,423,000	84,314,600
France ...	158,241,080	178,902,000	168,666,000
Spain ...	26,576,000	21,279,000	34,519,000
Austria-Hungary	62,938,000	68,317,000	65,861,000
United States ...	154,707,000	132,284,000	166,426,000
Italy (11 months)	42,804,760	51,307,400	52,342,880

It will be seen from the above that Germany, Belgium and Italy have displayed a constant improvement over the three years, while Spain and the United States showing a decline in 1898, more than regained the ground lost last year. The Spanish and American imports were naturally affected in 1898 by the Spanish-American war, and in the United States also by the new tariff. France and Austria were both exceptional in their experience, the imports of the first-named country advancing in 1898 by ten millions, which was lost in 1899. Austria suffered similarly, but in a less degree.

The export figures for the above countries are as under:—

—	1897	1898	1899
	£	£	£
Germany ...	181,749,000	187,828,000	199,571,000
Belgium* ...	61,921,080	68,017,920	70,895,880
France ...	143,918,000	140,436,000	155,966,000
Spain* ...	32,060,000	31,717,000	28,424,000
Austria-Hungary	63,854,000	67,302,000	77,368,000
United States ...	279,106,000	261,572,000	265,729,000
Italy (11 months)	69,037,325	43,606,440	47,547,600

* Value of principal articles exported only.

The foregoing figures show that for the triennial period Germany, Belgium, Italy, Austria, and the United States have made steady and continued progress during the three years, Austria seems to have done remarkably well in exports; so also has the United States. France, again, stands out as an exception—first a fall, and then a rise. Spain is the only country in the table which exhibited a decline last year, and that nearly four millions.

Scattered throughout the returns are a few figures of interest to the drug-trade. For instance, we find that the cinchona-bark exported from British India during the eight months ended November, 1899, amounted to 1,683,647 lbs. in 1899, against 923,127 lbs. and 629,021 lbs. in 1893 and 1897 respectively. As showing the effects of the plague, the exports of castor oil for the same period of 1899 declined to 1,131,575 gals., against 1,581,989 gals. in 1898. In seeds castor, linseed, gingelly, and rape all declined, the latter by about half—viz., 2,945,634 cwt., against 4,091,489 cwt. in 1898. Spices, such as pepper, and ginger, declined by nearly 2,000,000 lbs. Both shellae and button lac show increased exports, especially the former—109,412 cwt. against 83,465 cwt. and button 22,324 cwt. against 18,017 cwt. in 1898. Of opium £2,218 cwt. were exported, against 1,0716 cwt. Saltpetre also shows an increase of 13,000 cwt. In imports "chemicals" is the only item given which is of interest to us, and the value for the eight months ended November, 1899, was 2,872,770*r.*, against 2,620,240*r.* for the same period of 1898. The trade-returns for Canada are also incomplete, but they show that for the five months ended November, 1899, the drugs and medicines imported were valued at \$749,491, against \$725,151 and \$607,111 in 1898 and 1897 respectively. Holland imported more cinchona-bark last year—viz., 5,700,000 kilos. (12,562,800 lbs.), against 5,282,000 kilos. (11,641,528 lbs.) in 1898. The exports also increased from 5,383,000 kilos. to 5,577,000 kilos. in 1899. Under the trade of Spain, the exports of saffron for 1899 are given at 72,622 kilos., against 131,330 kilos. in the year immediately preceding. We may remark in conclusion that figures are given relating to the exports of a few German chemicals, such as carbolic acid, potassium chlorate, and quinine. The exports of the latter article were 7,381,500 oz. in 1899, against 7,031,500 oz. in 1898, or an increase of 350,000 oz. There is an all-round increase in the other chemicals mentioned. Altogether, the returns show that the excellent trade done by this country last year was shared to a great extent by other nations.

MANXLAND FIRST.

Subject to the Queen's signature and an ancient ceremonial on the Tynwald Hill next July, the chemists and druggists of the Isle of Man have obtained some measure of relief from companies. It is not as much as they nor any other chemists by examination would like, but it is better than nothing. The provision is defined on page 474. It should be specially noted that the Lord Chancellor's clause was rejected because it was so badly drafted! The Keys' discussion on this point is distinctly comic. We are glad to note that in the new clause the retailing, dispensing, and compounding of medical prescriptions, as well as poisons, are brought within its purview. That is a point well worth putting before St. Stephen's.

CONCERTED ACTION IN THE COUNCIL ELECTION.

Mr. Glyn-Jones is wise in his day and generation; he appeals through our correspondence columns for concerted action in regard to the promotion of the election of new candidates for the Pharmaceutical Council. It is exceedingly

difficult to get new men on the Council, because the majority of those who vote are guided by the asterisks which are placed on the voting-paper against the names of those who have already served on the Council. That is a by-law provision which gives retiring members a splendid start in the race, and without concerted action on behalf of new candidates it is practically impossible to displace old members, should that be desirable. Perhaps Mr. Glyn-Jones, as a member of the Council which is now revising the by-laws, will try to get the asterisks removed from the voting-papers.

DISAPPOINTED.

That this word carried the meaning of unprepared, as Mr. C. C. Bell pointed out on February 17, in Shakespeare's time and later, is well illustrated by the following lines:—

The bridegroom in at last did rustle,
All disappointed in his bustle,

which are quoted in the New English Dictionary from one Cleveland, and dated 1659.

THE "MINOR" EXAMINATION.

We heartily agree with Mr. Frederick Davis's suggestion to the Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association that the Pharmaceutical Society should be asked to change the name of the qualifying examination. It is quite true that officers of public bodies who are unacquainted with the conditions upon which persons are registered as chemists and druggists imagine that the term "Minor" examination indicates something inferior to the statutory qualification. The 6th section of the Pharmacy Act (1838) clearly indicates that the proper title to apply to this examination should be "Qualifying" examination. There is nothing in the Acts or the Charter to restrict the title to that which has persisted since examinations were first instituted under the voluntary system.

"M.A.P." AND CHEMISTS.

The sapient individual who contributes a weekly page of Parisian gossip to *M.A.P.* devoted his energies last week to slandering pharmacists in general and the pharmaciens of Paris in particular. Referring to Dr. Borne's prescriptions for influenza, which appeared in most of the daily papers a few weeks ago, and to which we alluded in our issue of February 24 (page 317), this precocious scribe says that he refrained from reprinting the prescriptions in *M.A.P.* because, for one thing, "English chemists are, even yet, not over familiar with the decimal system and the French names and strengths of drugs." But he could not resist, he said, retailing the complications that have arisen from the publication of the doctor-deputy's prescriptions. Immediately on their appearance every chemist in Paris was deluged with orders for the mixture and cachets, consequently every medico in Paris was up in arms. Practitioners threatened to warn off their patients from giving custom to pharmacie where Dr. Borne's remedies were dispensed, and, continues the *M.A.P.* young man, as a result many chemists boycotted Dr. Borne's prescriptions entirely. But the worst is yet to come. Several indignant influenza-smitten customers threatened to have the law on the boycotting chemists for refusing to serve them, and the next step had better be given in the writer's own words:—

Whereupon, finding that they were legally as well as otherwise in the wrong, several chemists, thus placed between the devil of the doctors and the deep sea of the Courts, devised a plan worthy of French ingenuity at its best—and worst. They consented to make up the draughts and cachets, only—they were not the draughts and cachets. They were made of various inert substances which did no harm, but most emphatically did no earthly good.

We should imagine that French pharmacists may have something to say about such ignorant accusations.

Westminster Wisdom.

THE COMPANIES BILL.

On Monday evening Mr. Kimber asked the President of the Board of Trade whether that part of the Companies Bill which, if passed, would give to simple contract-creditors of a company in liquidation preferential right of payment over all secured creditors, is intended by the Government to be persisted in; and whether it is the intention of the Government to have this alteration in the law, invalidating many millions of securities, discussed in Committee of the whole House; and, if not, whether ample notice and time will be given for its full discussion on second reading.

Mr. Ritchie replied: The clause referred to was not in the Bill as introduced in the House of Lords, and was not inserted at the instance of the Government. It will require careful consideration; but I am not able at the present stage to make any statement as regards the attitude of the Government with regard to any particular proposal in the Bill. The Government hope the House will refer the Bill to a Grand Committee.

The Bill was down for second reading in the House on Monday evening, but was again deferred until March 19.

The italics in Mr. Ritchie's reply are ours.

BROKERS' CONTRACT-NOTES.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had two questions put to him in the House of Commons on Friday, March 9, regarding brokers' contract-notes, and in his absence Mr. Hanbury replied to them. First, Mr. George Harwood (the member for Bolton) asked whether the tax would include memoranda forwarded to principals of sales or purchases made on the Manchester Exchange, and in similar places, by agents receiving commission. The reply to this was that such documents would certainly attract the proposed new stamp-duty, but explanations would be given in the Bill, which Mr. Hanbury hoped would be circulated in a few days.

The second question was put by Sir William H. Houldsworth, Bart. (the member for North-West Manchester). He asked whether the term "broker" was intended to include all agents selling or purchasing on commission for a principal, and, if not, what distinction was to be understood. Mr. Hanbury replied that the term "broker" would only apply to persons carrying on the business of a broker, and would not have the wide application suggested.

MIDWIVES BILL.

The second reading of this Bill was taken on Friday, March 9, when Mr. Heywood Johnstone (member for the Horsham Division of Sussex) moved the second reading, explaining that this is the only country in Europe where women without being qualified by skill or good character are allowed to practise as midwives. He explained the scope of the Bill, of which an abstract has already been printed in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Mr. Schwann (member for North Manchester) supported the motion, and hinted that medical men were taking a different view of the Bill from what they used to. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, in opposing the Bill, said that the *Lancet* had sent a circular letter to the medical profession in England regarding it and had received 7,250 replies, of which 1,547 were in favour of the Bill, 640 were not, and the rest were opposed to it. Mr. O'Connor also pointed out the anomaly that a medical man requires five years' training before he can practise midwifery, while under the Bill midwives require only three months' training. Mr. Heywood Johnstone said that was not so; the rules for training would be laid down by the Midwives Board and had to be determined by the General Medical Council. Nevertheless, Mr. O'Connor continued his opposition to the Bill, and was seconded by Dr. Ambrose in a motion for the adjournment of the debate, which was defeated. After further discussion, in the course of which Mr. Vicary Gibbs stated that the Bill was approved by the General Medical Council, the Royal College of Physicians, and the Royal College of Surgeons, the House divided, 124 voting for the second reading and 34 against. The Bill was then read a second time and referred to the Grand Committee of Law.

A similar Bill, which has been waiting a second reading in the House of Lords, was dropped on Monday evening.

THE WAR AND MEDICINE.

The Army estimates which have been submitted to the House of Commons show that the Army Medical Service during the ensuing year will cost about a quarter of a million pounds more than in the year preceding. Included in the increase is an item of 50,000*l.* representing increase in cost of medicines, medical comforts, and surgical appliances.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

On January 30 the House ordered two new sets of rules under these Acts to lie on the table for forty days. The poor things completed their forty days' fast on Sunday. They are rules for chemical-works in which is carried on the manufacture of bichromate or chromate of potassium or sodium, and for lucifer-match factories in which white or yellow phosphorus is used. In each case the duties of occupiers of premises for other purposes are specified in numerous rules, as well as the duties of persons employed. In the chromate works the occupiers must, in addition to providing all possible protection of vessels containing corrosive chromate liquids, appoint a duly qualified medical practitioner to examine the employés once a month and medically treat them if necessary, as well as provide requisites approved by the surgeon for treating slight wounds and ulcers. Respirators are to be provided for persons employed in crushing bichromate of potash or sodium or potassium. Special lavatory accommodation is also to be provided. The lucifer-match factories have rules of a kindred nature.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. MAGNUS & LAUER, essential-oil dealers, of 4 Cedar Street, New York, will shortly remove their premises to 92 Pearl Street in that city, where they will occupy the entire building.

TO IMPROVE THEIR SPEECH.—Following a time-honoured custom, Messrs. John L. Brown & Son have made the annual distribution of their Bronchial Troches to the members of the Massachusetts Legislature.

In consequence of the termination of the bichrome-convention, Messrs. D. W. Greenough & Son, 29 Rood Lane, E.C., have resumed their former position as sole London agents for Messrs. J. & J. White's bichromates of potash and soda.

APPROVED.—The Board of Trade has officially intimated approval of Bromo Sanitary Disinfectant as part of the medical stores of vessels. This disinfectant is made by Messrs. Allison, Johnson & Foster, manufacturing chemists, Hull.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co. inform us that great pressure of work in various departments of their business prevents them completing their exhibit before the opening of the Paris Exhibition, and the Royal Commission has permitted their application for space to be cancelled.

"**THE FIGHTING 'TÉMÉRAIRE'**" is the subject of No. 2 of the Vibrona series of historic pictures which Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., Holloway, N., are issuing. We have seen proofs of the plate. The points of Turner's famous picture are brought out more clearly than in any engraving we have hitherto seen, and we are not surprised to hear that Mr. George Allen, the publisher of Ruskin's works, says it is the best reproduction extant.

TRADE LITERATURE.—Spratt's Patent (Limited), 24 Fen-church Street, E.C., have issued a pamphlet entitled "The Common Sense of Chicken and Poultry Rearing," which gives much useful and valuable instruction on this point, as well as on the rearing and the care of fowls under all possible circumstances. They will forward a copy post free on application.—Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited) have issued an illustrated booklet for the use of their customers which gives full details of the repairing of siphons. The booklet is very attractively produced, and a full description of all necessary repairs and the tools employed is embodied in it. Chemists desiring a copy may have one forwarded by applying to the firm's headquarters at Pratt Street, Camden Town, N.W.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

EVENING MEETING.

THE last meeting of this session was held on Wednesday evening, March 14, when there was a better attendance than usual, the audience including Dr. John Attfield, Mr. Charles Umney, Professor Greenish, Mr. Walter Hills, Mr. C. B. Allen, Mr. Wretts, and Mr. Glyn-Jones. Mr. W. Mardale (the President) took the chair shortly after 8 o'clock, and called upon Mr. E. M. Holmes, Curator of the Society, to read his

NOTES ON THE COMMERCE OF DRUGS.

The scarcity of some drugs at irregular intervals on the European market probably arises chiefly from the prevailing keen competition in trade, which leads wholesale buyers to purchase as low as possible. Mr. HOLMES, therefore, confined his remarks to some drugs which are at present scarce or high in price.

It is impossible to obtain a hundredweight of genuine jaborandi-leaves in London, because that drug has become scarce and dear on account of the large supplies which were formerly imported having so cheapened it that it is not worth collecting. The cheaper drug is largely bought by wholesale dealers. The smaller leaf is purchased by makers of pilocarpine. The genuine drug costs 9d. per lb. and sells at about half the price. The result is that shipments have now fallen off. For genuine leaves 1s. or 1s. 6d. per lb. could now easily be obtained.

At the present time it is impossible to procure genuine strophænthus. In this case the difficulty is due to ignorance. Some countries have adopted the practice of sending three varieties, all of which are similar in appearance.

Of the three species (*S. Kombé*, *S. Emini* and *S. hispidus*) the latter two give a pink reaction with sulphuric acid and the Kombé a green. He defied anybody to separate the seeds, as all the three species are so much alike in appearance. There is also a West African seed which is quite brown. A teaspoonful-dose of the tincture of the spurious seeds had failed to give effect, while a few drops of the true acted properly. It was quite natural that medical men should lose confidence in the drug and the demand fall off. A particular brand under the name of Mundalla will soon be placed on the market which it is hoped will reinstate strophænthus in favour.

Although some years ago German aconite was the common variety in commerce, Japanese aconite has gradually appeared as a carefully-prepared drug of good quality. Many wholesale firms use it in making the tincture. Squire had proved that the autumn root is the best. Owing to great competition and low prices, the English acreage under cultivation was now considerably less.

Parcira brava was another drug which was frequently spurious, but the true could be had if people would pay for it. Mr. Holmes exhibited a sample of Uganda aloes, and said it was the finest he had ever seen and was apparently sun-dried; he believed it had recently sold at 100s. per ewt. The drug was imported from Mossel Bay, and was made there by a man named Deacon; its source was practically the same as that of *Aloe ferox*. The aloes commanded a better price than the Cape aloes simply because it was the same thing better made.

The cause of the inferior quality of scammony was really the demand in the consuming-markets for an inferior quality. Thus, Skillip scammony, containing about only 40 per cent. of resin, was worth only half the price of the pure drug, and was much in demand for the South American market, where buyers will not pay the price of the pure drug. Here, again, competition was responsible for the production on the market of the drug.

The demand for cheap saffron for colouring-purposes has led to the regular supply of Alicante, which was at least 1s. per lb. cheaper than the Valencia of best quality.

It cannot be too widely recognised by pharmacists that genuineness in drugs means, as a rule, inferiority in quality. I usually follows that those who sell cheaply must buy

cheaply, and the public must suffer. Only buyers who can purchase in large quantities can buy cheaply, and unless they have rapid sales the expense of warehousing necessitates an increase in prices. The publication of market-prices in the journals of pharmacy, and the difference between them and the prices of drugs in the wholesale drug-lists, lead to an attempt on the part of retailers to obtain drugs at the lowest possible price, often leaving a poor working margin for the expenses to the wholesale house. Many crude drugs, such as senna, myrrh, &c., have to be sifted from dirt, screened in various sizes, and picked by hand. The wholesale dealer in drugs had to supply the varying demand of different countries, and must either lose business or keep in stock and sell drugs of a quality very often below the B.P. quality; but he was always willing to procure drugs of the best quality for those who would pay the price for them. A man might purchase a very nice-looking sample of gum arabic at a cheap rate, and think he had got a bargain, but often on dissolving it he found it had very little adhesive properties, or that it gave a glairy mucilage, or that it had a considerable proportion of insoluble matter; or he might buy cheap myrrh, and find that it only yielded a small quantity of good gum for mist. ferri co., and that it required careful picking to separate the pieces of different flavour (bisabol, &c.) that would spoil the flavour of the mixture.

DISCUSSION.

The PRESIDENT, in opening the discussion, said the vagaries of commerce were sometimes such as to create such difficulty in getting supplies of crude drugs that pharmacists were obliged to scour the country to get a small quantity of a certain article.

Mr. J. SLINGER WARD, referring to poor scammony, said the B.P. was at fault, as it specified too low yields of resin and ash.

Professor GREENISH said he had often urged upon Mr. Holmes to record his knowledge and experience of drugs, especially from the commercial side, in some lasting form, and he hoped Mr. Holmes would yet do that. The speaker urged the study of the microscopic characters of genuine drugs as of great value, as comparison with substitutes was rarely possible. He did not consider that too much weight should be attached to the commerce of drugs. It seemed to him that a student who had received careful grinding in the scientific part of the subject ought to be able to apply his knowledge to drugs presented to him in the course of business. In the case of gum acacia, if carefully instructed he would be able, by the B.P. descriptions, to detect without much difficulty the gums which are not adapted for pharmaceutical use. Speaking of saffron, he referred to a late student at the Square who had found in a business-stock he had purchased saffron half of which was calendula. This mixture could be obtained in Germany. As with aconite, the Germans were of opinion that the summer root of the wild plant was the best and strongest, and they preferred to use it. Professor Dunstan had shown them that they had no means of determining the proportion of crystalline aconitine, but the Swiss chemist, Keller, had shown how to determine the total alkaloid in German root, which is mostly of a crystalline character and probably contains aconitine, and the quantity present was larger than they had previously thought. As to Japanese aconite, some time ago he heard that there were two kinds of it sold, but on going into the matter he found that the two kinds were a daughter-root joined to a mother-root.

Mr. CHARLES UMNEY said the commerce of drugs was bound to be a special matter to everyone who handled drugs, and to the wholesale druggist it was of vital interest. Mr. Holmes had rendered good service in calling attention to these matters, and he would like to state that there was no man on that side of Temple Bar who had more knowledge of the subject than he. He (the speaker) had been in the habit of buying the drug-catalogues, and on looking over them for the years 1879, 1889, and 1899, he was astonished how the laws of supply and demand had operated. For example, kino he had bought at 4d. per lb. and sold at 3s., buying it back again at 1s. A better example of the fluctuation of a drug than that within the last four or five years he could not cite. At the present time the drug had dropped to 1s. 6d. per lb. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred it was the law of supply and demand which regulated

these prices. Cubebbs, now worth 20s. per cwt., he had seen sold at 25*l.* per cwt.; but the conditions were now altered, for the drug was grown in Java, where also 90 per cent. of the cinchona was grown. As regards jaborandi-leaves, the fact was that the supplies seldom, if ever, came into the port of London, but to Liverpool. He saw no reason why the other kinds of jaborandi should not be used. They did not use one variety of cinchona for making quinine. He believed in making the B.P. their standard, and unless they did so they would unmistakably go down very rapidly. He had seen the several varieties of strophanthus, but he always looked out for Kombé. As regards aconite-root, Mr. Holmes had not mentioned the Indian root, which occasionally came on the market in considerable quantities. Two years ago he bought a ton of it. The reason why German aconite-root was taken out of the B.P. was because the research-work on the alkaloids was in a chaotic condition and they thought therefore the better way out of the difficulty was to say "English aconite-root," and then they would know that they would have the tincture more especially made from the root grown under their very noses. Here again the law of supply and demand came in; he had paid 1*d.*, 4*d.*, and 3*s.* per lb. for it. As regards scammony, that had an ancient history attached to it. In the 1867 B.P. and the previous B.P. the standard of scammony was 80 per cent., but there was a very keen action fought out in the courts in regard to a lot, and it was proved that 80-per-cent. natural scammony was with great difficulty obtainable, and afterwards the limit was reduced to 75 per cent., and, unfortunately, in the last B.P. it was put down to 70 per cent. It was true, as Mr. Ward said, that the ash-statement was wrong. He had seen prices-current where wholesale druggists, in order to wipe their hands of the matter, wrote "Not B.P. ash," thus throwing the responsibility on to the next man. The low price of scammony-root had to a great extent become responsible for the displacement of natural scammony; the proportion now of natural scammony used was about one-hundredth part to that used years ago. Talking of saffron, he said it was a common process in Spain to load saffron with sulphate of baryta made adherent with glycerin. Mr. Umney also referred to the losses in grinding drugs, especially instancing opium.

Mr. J. H. HEAP said he was greatly interested in the study of drugs from a commercial point of view. Referring to saffron, he thought the Alicante variety was little more than an adulterated form of saffron. He did not think, however, that Mr. Holmes had allowed a sufficient margin in price between the Alicante and Valencia. The difference was much more than 1*s.* a lb. As regards the Uganda aloes, he had also learned that the parcels in question had not come from Uganda at all, and it was a doubt on the subject that led him to make inquiries.

Mr. G. F. FORSTER stated that as a result of advice given to him by Mr. Holmes the use of strophanthus had much increased in his dispensary, because the right drug is sure in action.

Mr. GLYN-JONES asked if there was any reason why the Government should not to some extent take action in regard to imported drugs as they did in regard to imported articles of food—that is, to compel the importers to properly designate and properly describe the articles thus imported.

Mr. UMNEY answered this question. He said he had been one of a deputation to Mr. Long in reference to separating drugs in the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act. He had advocated the appointment of an inspector of drugs for the port of London, but some of his *confrères* had strongly objected to such an appointment, because the inspector would consider that all drugs which were not up to the standard should be destroyed, and then the trade in drugs would be to a certain extent in jeopardy. Cumin-seeds, if damaged by water, would be rejected by the inspector, but there was no reason why such seeds would not do equally well to produce essential oils. Cinchona-bark, if damaged by water, was still good for alkaloid-making.

Mr. PETER MACEWAN gave an instance of where the laws of supply and demand did not operate—namely, in cascara. The collection of that drug had dwindled immensely during the past few years, owing to the gradual extinction or great difficulty of getting at the trees. Another example was ipecac. Apparently the region from which the official drug is derived had become to some extent depleted. When the

price was low there was little collected, as indiarubber-collecting paid better, and values rose enormously, but now supplies are coming along freely again. The sale of drugs by B.P. name and not up to the B.P. standard could easily be got at through the Merchandise-marks Act.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said his question had been misunderstood. He saw no reason to interfere with the articles not up to B.P. standard, but he thought that they should be properly designated and described.

Mr. WALTER HILLS, referring to Pareira brava, said that medical men were anxious to retain it in the B.P. as it was a valuable drug. Could Mr. Holmes tell them what the drug was, if it could be got, and if it differed in the slightest medicinally from any other wood?

Mr. MARTINDALE said he had had a good deal of experience of jaborandi—(laughter)—he having imported it years ago from Pernambuco. His supplier had died, and of late years he had not been able to get any from other sources. He knew an importer who had got several importations, which arrived all at once, and he mixed them together, and wanted to sell them together, as he knew buyers would take only one kind. (Laughter.) Talking of fluctuations in prices, he said he had in stock some Pelletier's quinine which cost him 13*s.* 4*d.* per oz. When he was in Jamaica last year the planters there had abandoned some millions of cinchona-trees because it would not pay to harvest the bark. They had turned their attention to bananas.

Mr. HOLMES having replied,

Mr. J. SLINGER WARD was called upon to read a paper upon some

SIERRA LEONE DRUGS.

These were sent to a London agent by Mr. Onacoë Annah, of Sierra Leone, with descriptions of the uses of each of the drugs, and these descriptions were so quaint that the audience frequently laughed quite heartily at them. The first of the drugs was akotompotene, which is a root used for the cure of dysentery, diarrhoea, and similar complaints. It is used along with Guinea grains as an infusion, or as a tincture, made with rum, gin, schnapjes, or whisky. The root is probably *Xylopia* sp. (*Annonaceæ*), which Mr. Cole informed Professor Scott Elliot is a powerful astringent and styptic, and is very effective in checking bleeding.

Toantin consists of root and leaves of an undetermined plant, probably tumardiabah, an unidentified drug presented to the Pharmaceutical Museum by Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co. It is used with Guinea grains, in a similar manner to the foregoing, for intestinal disorders, also a tonic for coughs, and as an application for chronic sores.

Ekum Nkura, which means literally "killing mice," is a bark employed for reducing swellings, being applied by rubbing. It is also recommended as a snuff for fainting persons. It is probably a *Bauhinia*, and gives a red tincture, while chemical examination of it showed indications of an alkaloid.

The next drug was nkobokesah or inconchery, a root which is employed not only as a tonic and for curing waist-pains and the weakness of men, but as an addition to various dishes for counteracting smells, such as that on fish.

Adesekanchie consists of root and bark, and is employed for the cure of diarrhoea and external pains. It is *Sarcocapnos esculentus*, but is better known as West African peach-root, or doundaki.

Yarney crop, for fainting persons, appears to be a *Gladiolus* sp., probably *specatus*. The powder is put into the nostrils of fainting persons, and if they sneeze they will be better, and able to answer any questions put to them—so Mr. Annah wrote. It is also employed as a purgative. The other two drugs were not determined—namely, atsunobie-bark, which was used for uterine haemorrhage, and peyarebiasch, which is used for consumption and cough. Bongo, the pod of a cassia, was also described.

In the brief discussion which followed Mr. HOLMES called the attention of the meeting to the fact that these Sierra Leone drugs were offered in the native markets just as herbs are here, and no doubt Mr. Annah had sent them on the supposition that there would be a market for them here also. Guinea grains is the common name for grains of paradise, but it is not *Piper Clusii*, which had been referred to by Mr. Ward.

Professor GREENISH also remarked upon the extensive

field this collection of drugs opens up to us, and regretted that there were so few workers in the field.

Mr. E. M. HOLMES then read a note on

OTTO OF ORRIS,

By Mr. J. C. Stead, F.C.S.

Hitherto the otto of orris of commerce has been a concrete oil. The author, who is director of Messrs. Horner & Sons' laboratories, has succeeded in freeing the otto from the myristic acid to which its solidity is due, and he thus obtains from each five parts of the concrete otto one part of transparent and fluid otto. It is of a golden-yellow colour, and has a powerful and persistent smell, but on extreme dilution the delightful odour of violets is obtained. Its taste is bland, but it has a bitter after-taste. The otto is soluble in all proportions of ether, alcohol, chloroform, petroleum-ether, and benzene. It requires eight times its volume of 70-per-cent. alcohol to make a clear solution. It is acid in reaction towards litmus-paper, and on treatment with caustic-potash solution forms a milky mixture, from which a curd separates. It yields nothing when shaken with sodium acid sulphite solution, indicating the absence of aldehydes. On distillation at atmospheric pressure the oil decomposed. The following are the physical characters of the otto:—

Sp. gr. at 15.5° C.—0.9489.

Rotary power in 100 mm.—28.25°.

Required for neutralisation—6.4 per cent. seminormal potassium hydrate.

After acetylising—17.76 per cent. ditto.

Congealing point,—5° C.

Viscosity at 20° C. is 34.6, as compared with almond oil 100.

The author claimed that this otto marks a distinct advance upon the concrete article hitherto alone obtainable.

Mr. HOLMES, in tabling the note, said he was glad to think that English chemists were not behind the German in the investigation of essential oils.

Mr. W. C. ALLEN (Stafford Allen & Son), on being invited by the CHAIRMAN to speak, said that he was reminded of the injunction of the Apostle Paul to lay hands suddenly on no man. He did not expect to be called upon to speak, but confessed that the subject had great interest for him. The concrete oil was very familiar to him, for his firm had distilled it for several years; but they did not touch this liquid otto at all—at least, a genuine article such as Mr. Stead submitted. On several occasions a liquid oil of orris had been made which was known to have as much to do with orris as it had with anything which may be mentioned; in fact, it was an entirely sophisticated article. He would certainly watch with great interest anything which might be stated in regard to the production of this new otto.

Mr. CHARLES UMNEY said that twenty-five years ago he had distilled large quantities of otto of orris, and some of them might remember that Mr. Daniel Hanbury gave records of some of his experiments. He had, however, done no distilling for about twenty years, as he got all he required from such firms as Mr. Allen's. He considered that the Society was indebted to Mr. Stead and Messrs. Horner & Sons for bringing this matter before it, especially as it was known that all the commercial oil of orris was not of equal value, probably owing to variation in amount of myristic acid present. The oil was a peculiar one to distil. If the worm was not kept at a certain temperature, the distillate congealed in it, just as in the case of oil of elder.

Mr. HOLMES remarked that the supposed active principles of essential oils did not always represent the full perfume. Tiemann found that iron was the active principle of orris, but it had not the delightful aroma of violets as the liquid otto now exhibited had.

Mr. Holmes then described a few of the donations to the museum. Included amongst these were specimens of dionin, iodopene, and bromopene presented by Messrs. Merck & Co.

CORPORAL R. H. PRESTON, the son of Mr. Alfred C. Preston, of Messrs. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, sailed with the Field Hospital attached to the Imperial Yeomanry Volunteers per ss. *Wimfield* on March 13 for service in South Africa.

War Notes.

TRANSVAAL AND O.F.S. SUBSCRIBERS.—Any subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and who have not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and copies of the DIARY, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses. This note also applies to subscribers in beleaguered towns in other parts of South Africa whose supply of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has been stopped by the Post Office owing to the war.

"C. & D." GREETINGS TO KIMBERLEY.—The following greeting was sent by our Cape correspondent immediately the relief of Kimberley was made known in Cape Town. The message was sent by wire as far as possible, thence by native runner:—

Cape correspondent of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST offers, in name of Editor, greetings and congratulations to chemists of Kimberley.

GIFTS FOR THE TROOPS.—Messrs. Robert Gibson & Sons (Limited), of Manchester and London, have given and sent out to the troops in South Africa 5,000 tins of their "Thirst-quenchers."—Messrs. Barker Brothers, chemists and druggists, Dhurrumtollah, Calcutta, have presented 100 tins of "Tropon" to "Lumsden's Horse."—Messrs. Raimes, Clark & Co., wholesale druggists, Edinburgh, have made a handsome contribution towards the equipment of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland South African Hospital, in the shape of eight large cases of medicines and a drum of methylated spirit. The consignment weighs nearly 30 cwt., and the cases are emblazoned with the city's crest and motto, "Nisi Dominus Frustra," below a red cross and the firm's name. With a view to ease in transport every case is fitted with rope-handles; locks and keys are also provided, and the contents of each package are shown on the inner side of the lid. The hospital is to be movable, the intention being to have it always as close as possible to the fighting line.

THE BELEAGUERED MAYOR.—We give herewith a sketch-portrait of Mr. Joseph Farquhar, Mayor of Ladysmith. Mr. Farquhar is brother to Mr. James Farquhar, chemist and druggist, St. John Street, Perth, and is thus remotely connected with the drug-trade. He went out to South Africa in 1880, proceeding at once to Ladysmith, where he started in business as a contractor—a venture in which he has been distinctly successful. He was the first Mayor of Ladysmith, having been selected in 1894, and he was also President of the Ladysmith Town Guard. On March 6 Mr. James Farquhar had a cablegram from his brother, the Mayor, reporting that all was well.



MR. JOSEPH FARQUHAR.

SERGEANT LEGGE, R.A.M.C., now serving on the Princess of Wales's hospital-ship which has just returned with wounded from South Africa, was present in uniform and met with a splendid reception at the annual dinner of the Notts Chemists' Association on March 8. Sergeant Legge volunteered his services and gave up his position as dispenser at the Nottingham Union early in December. He is a Minor man, and has held for some time the rank of sergeant in the Medical Corps of the Robin Hood Rifles. He left Nottingham again on March 10 to rejoin the hospital-ship at Southampton.

The Companies Bill.

Powder and Shot.

MR. RITCHIE had his Bill on the Orders of the Day for March 12, but, as other business occupied the attention of the House, the second reading was again postponed, this time to March 19. That the case for the chemist is not yet hopeless is fairly evidenced by the following letter, which his secretary has addressed to one of his Conservative colleagues:—

Board of Trade,
Whitehall Gardens, S.W.,
8 March, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired by Mr. Ritchie to state, in reply to our letter of the 6th inst., that the statement of the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist" has already been brought to his notice by the writer and others in connection with Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, and that due consideration will be given to the arguments contained in it.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
GARNHAM ROPER.

The subscriber who sends us this letter informs us that he wrote to his member, and on Saturday, March 11, this gallant member, who is a C.M.G., took Mr. Ritchie's letter to our correspondent, and not only promised to consider the matter when it comes before the House, but added, "It is a monstrous thing that any seven persons should be allowed to do in combination what would be illegal for any one of them to do."

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

is provided by the member for the Hexham division of Northumberland (Mr. Wentworth C. B. Beaumont). Mr. J. P. Gibson, Local Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society, sent our circular to the chemists in the division (which covers a larger area than any other parliamentary division in England), and it was signed as a petition by Mr. J. P. Gibson, C. & D., Mr. John Gibson, C. & D., Mr. W. R. Riddle, C. & D., Mr. T. E. Riddle, Ph.Ch., Mr. David Low, Ph.Ch., Mr. J. A. Hare, Ph.Ch., Mr. L. Noel Thompson, C. & D., Mr. Geo. Richardson, C. & D., Mr. N. W. Robson, C. & D., and Mr. W. Pattinson, C. & D., Hexham; Mr. P. Townsend, C. & D., Corbridge; Mr. J. Douthwaite, C. & D., and Mr. Bevan, C. & D., Prudhoe; Mr. Rowell, C. & D., Haydon Bridge; Mr. Bell, C. & D., and Mr. Milligan, C. & D., Haughton; and Mr. Athey, C. & D., Rothbury. To this communication Mr. Beaumont has replied as follows:—

114 Piccadilly,
March 8, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged for the memorandum you have sent me expressing the views of so many pharmaceutical chemists and druggists in the Hexham division on Clause 2 of the Companies Bill recently introduced, and the statement criticising the clause.

I may say that I have not yet studied the provisions of the "Companies Bill," but will take an early opportunity of doing so, with greater interest derived from the opinions which you have forwarded to me, and the question shall have my careful consideration.

I am, yours faithfully,
W. C. B. BEAUMONT.

Here, again, is encouragement; and it should particularly be noted how a well-backed letter from a locality impresses itself upon the members. The same thing was done by Mr. William Ross of Glasshields, and he has had a reply from the local member to which we shall refer next week. We have a few copies of the circular left specially prepared so that it may be signed by a representative chemist and endorsed by his *confrères*, and shall be glad to send copies to anyone on request. United action on the part of chemists and druggists may yet win the day.

LINLITHGOW'S VOTE.

Mr. Alexander Spence (Local Secretary for Linlithgow County) informs us that three copies of the Federation

circular letter and Clause A have been signed by every chemist in the county of Linlithgow.

David Lister, South Queensferry	Francis Rae, South Queensferry
James Chapman, Kirkliston	David Reid, Bathgate
Findlay Stuart, Broxburn	John Freedland, Bathgate
A. Tweedie, Boness	Marshall Thomson, Boness
Thomas Laidden, Linlithgow	C. M. Spence, Linlithgow
Annie Y. W. Spence, Linlithgow	Edward Spence, Linlithgow
	Alexander Spence, Linlithgow

These have been sent to Messrs. Alexander Ure, M.P. (Linlithgow County), and John Wilson, M.P. (Falkirk Burghs), and to Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, M.P. (Stirling Burghs).

WHAT THE SOCIETY IS DOING.

The following is a copy of a circular letter which has been sent to the divisional and local secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society:—

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain,
17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.
March 8, 1900.

The Companies Bill.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired to inform you that at the Council-meeting yesterday the President reported the result of his interview with the President of the Board of Trade in regard to Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, and stated that, in view of the strong expression of opinion by Mr. Ritchie, the Law and Parliamentary Committee had felt that in the circumstances no other course was open to the Council than to oppose the clause. After careful and prolonged discussion, the conclusions of the committee were adopted. The detailed report of the discussion at the Council-meeting will be published in this week's *Pharmaceutical Journal*, to which I would venture to direct your careful attention.

The Parliamentary Watch Committee, which has been charged with the duty of arranging details for opposing the Bill, hopes to have your cordial co-operation in carrying the decision of the Council into effect when the Bill reaches the Committee stage. It is probable that that stage will not be taken for some time—certainly not before Easter; but due intimation with instructions will be sent you by the Watch Committee.

Meanwhile, I am to ask you to intimate to your member of Parliament, and to suggest similar action on the part of your colleagues, your strong desire that he should oppose Clause 2 of the Bill when it reaches the Committee stage.

Will you please further intimate to your member of Parliament that, immediately before the Committee stage, you and your neighbours will again communicate with him on the subject?

I am, dear Sir,
RICHARD BREMIDGE, Secretary.

On the fly-leaf of the circular occurs the following in bold black type:

THE POSITION IN BRIEF.

The ultimatum of the Government, clearly conveyed through the Minister in charge of the Bill is Clause 2 or nothing.

The Council feels that circumstances do not justify the acceptance of Clause 2, and that the present condition would be preferable both on public and pharmaceutical grounds.

We comment upon this circular elsewhere in this issue,

TO PUT CHEMISTS IN CLAUSE 3.

A deputation from the North-East Lancashire Chemists Association waited upon Sir W. Coddington, M.P., at the County Club, Blackburn, on March 9, with reference to the Companies Bill. The deputation consisted of Messrs. T. Critchley, C. Parkinson, W. Wells, and R. L. Gifford. Mr. Wells gave Sir William a concise account of the grievance of which they complained, and showed how it arose owing to the omission of the words "or persons" after "person" in the Act of 1858. The intention of the Act was, he asserted, to institute personal qualification and responsibility, and the whole essence of the Pharmacy Act had been nullified owing to limited companies being allowed to practise as chemists. Sir William Coddington thoroughly discussed the subject, and asked for information on cardinal points. Mr. Gifford asked the hon. member to note that it was not a

trade question. Sir W. Coddington: Quite so; I am quite clear on that point. It is a professional matter, just as in the case of a doctor or a lawyer. The two clauses are a contradiction, and I cannot understand their appearance. Mr. Gifford, in answer to a question, said the Lord Chancellor had been impelled to try and regulate the matter owing to the extent of the abuse, and the fact that it was dealt with in the Companies Bill was doubtless due to expediency. Sir W. Coddington said there could be no just settlement except the putting of chemists in Clause 3. It was stated that there was a suggestion that a qualified directorate would meet the case, and Sir W. Coddington, in discussing it, said such a thing would be unworkable; in fact, members would not listen to such a scheme. The deputation had a clear case. No limited company should be entrusted to do that which was illegal in the case of individuals. He hoped the Pharmaceutical Society and chemists in other towns were enlightening M.P.'s on the subject, because the opinions of two or three without general support were not of much use.

OXFORD VIEWS.

The Oxford and District Chemists' Association has issued a circular stating that at the annual meeting of the Association it was unanimously resolved—

That this Association urges as a just protection of the chemists' title the amendment of Clause 2 of the Companies Bill in accordance with the following:—"That no company of unqualified persons may use the description of a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist or any other title implying registration under the Pharmacy Act, 1868."

Manx Pharmacy Bill.

AS briefly reported in our last issue (page 418), the House of Keys on Tuesday, March 6, took up for consideration the Legislative Council's objections to the House's amendments to the Bill for regulating the sale of drugs and poisons. The Speaker having reported the dissensions of the Council from the House, a committee consisting of Messrs. J. T. Cowell, J. R. Kerruish, J. J. Goldsmith, J. C. Crullin, and J. Joughin was appointed. The deputation had a conference with the Council lasting half an hour, after which Mr. J. T. Cowell reported that there was a considerable difference of opinion between the two branches as to the way in which the company-pharmacy question should be dealt with, but the Attorney-General would draw up a new clause during the luncheon-hour which would meet their views, and then it would be for the House to consider whether that clause did what they wished it should do. It had been pointed out to the deputation that the Lord Chancellor's clause, which the House had adopted as a new clause, would have a different effect to what was contemplated, and would not quite carry out what the House desired. Mr. Cowell proceeded to say:—

The Committee on the Bill had evidence given them by some of the chemists of the town, and they were represented by counsel. They introduced to us the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords, in which this clause was inserted out of a Bill introduced by the Lord Chancellor in the Act of 1893; but where that Bill is at present we do not know. It is floating about somewhere; there has not been much time: as regards Parliamentary matters, twelve months is not a great deal. But that Bill has not proceeded any further. Still we are anxious that the meaning, at all events, should be introduced in this Bill.

Mr. J. R. Cowell: What is the ground of the Council's opinion?

Mr. J. T. Cowell: I believe they rather thought that some member of this House had drafted this clause, and, after hearing a very great deal said upon the matter, we simply told them that this clause had been drafted somewhere else, and had been introduced into the House of Lords, and that it was not our Secretary, or any member of the Keys, who was responsible for the clumsy way in which this clause had been worded. However, we hope to have a clause which will carry out to the full the intentions of this House. Then we came to the question of the schedules which we had altered, and there the Council is very strongly of opinion—and I do not think there is any chance of them giving way—that the schedules should remain as they were when they were introduced to this House. We introduced a number of other poisons—carbolic, and articles connected with carbolic—but they pointed out what was pointed out in this House—that in England these were not included, as the schedules are, without the altera-

tions made by this House, exact copies of the English Act, and we must remember that this works automatically—whatever poisons are hereafter added by the Pharmaceutical Society in England in conjunction with the Privy Council are at once added as poisons under this Bill. It does not require a new Bill; it does not require any time to elapse; but the moment that the Privy Council and the Pharmaceutical Society of England decide that any other matter is to be added to either of the schedules in the English Act, then they become poisons under our Act. Therefore, I think, on that point, it would be well for us to make the law as it is in England, and to agree with the Council. It was pointed out we could hardly see how far-reaching the additions we might make might be in reference to trading in this island. Therefore, on that point, I think, there can be no objection to us giving way, and accepting the clause as it was. With reference to Clause 9, when this Bill was before the House previously, the word "section" commenced line 43; but at the request of some member of the chemists' trade, represented by counsel, we were asked, on the spur of the moment, to put that word "section" out, and "Act" in. But that has been a mistake; it alters the whole shape of the Bill. The Council have found that out, and reinserted the word "section." I ask the Keys to accept that. I do not suppose I can do anything but report until we have the whole Bill before us.

The further consideration of the Bill was adjourned until later in the day, when the following clause suggestive of the Legislative Council was submitted:—

No joint-stock company may carry on the business and use the description of chemist and druggist, or chemists and druggists, unless at each place of business of such company the retailing, dispensing, and compounding of poisons or medical prescriptions is conducted exclusively by a pharmaceutical chemist, or by a person registered as a chemist and druggist under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and unless the name of the person so qualified is conspicuously posted in the place where the business is carried on. Anyone acting in contravention of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 10*l.*

Mr. J. T. Cowell stated that the clause carried out entirely the views expressed by members of both Houses, and it contained everything they desired. He moved the adoption of the clause, which Mr. Goldsmith seconded, and the motion was carried.

The word "section" was reinstated in Clause 9 instead of the word "Act," and the House agreed to the poisons-schedule matter remaining as the Legislative Council desired. Mr. J. T. Cowell referred to some points in connection with company-pharmacy, and suggested the incorporation of the words "and companies" after "persons" in Clause 5 of the Bill, which describes what chemists and druggists within the meaning of it are. Mr. J. R. Cowell seconded this proposal, and it was agreed to again consult the Council on the matter. On returning Mr. J. T. Cowell reported that the Council had pointed out that it would never do to introduce the words suggested, as it would give an advantage to the company which is at present in existence in the island, and allow it to carry on business without a qualified assistant, and neither branch of the Legislature wished that. After the amendments had been disposed of Mr. Mylchreest said: I am not quite sure whether a company can start business in that line in the future, or whether it gives a monopoly to the existing company.

Mr. Maitland: No; any company may start.

Mr. J. T. Cowell: Except that, as in the case of any new company starting business, they would have to employ a qualified person.

The schedule and Bill were passed, and the Keys met the Council in Tynwald at 5.20 P.M.

At the Tynwald Court on Tuesday, March 13, the Bill was first on the list for formal signature by the Governor, after which it is submitted to the Queen for her assent for promulgation, in accordance with Manx custom, on Tynwald Hill on July 5 next.

New Books.

Humphry, L. *Manual of Nursing.* 7*½* x 5*½*. Pp. 263. 3*s. 6d.* (Griffin.)

Merritt, W. H. *Field Testing for Gold and Silver: Practical Manual for Prospectors and Miners.* 5*½* x 3*½*. Pp. 156. 5*s. net.* (Lockwood.)

Thorington, J. *Refraction and How to Refract.* 8vo. 7*s. 6d.* n (Rebman.)

Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Royal Institution.

ON Friday evening, March 9, Sir William Crookes, F.R.S., was the Chairman, and the discourse was by Professor FRANK CLOWES on

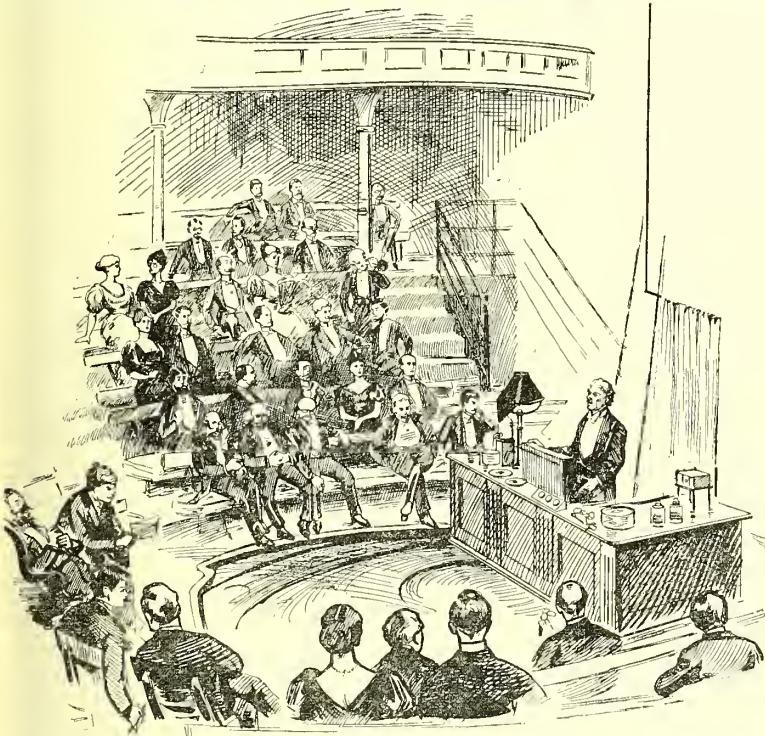
BACTERIA AND SEWAGE.

Brief mention was first made of the researches of Schwann and Pasteur on microscopic organisms, and of the work of Dr. Percy Frankland who, in 1886, found that the number of spores in the air varied with the height from the ground. The rapidity of movement and rapid rate of increase of bacteria were then touched on. In regard to the latter, quoting Cohn, the lecturer said one organism could increase to 16,500,000 in twenty-four hours, and that in a week the number of organisms would be expressed by fifty-one figures. Spores were readily killed by heat after they had developed into organisms, but recent researches have shown that they retain their vitality even after exposure to

wished him to look out for it. "That was on March 1," said Professor Clowes, amidst laughter, "and the superintendent tells me he has not yet come across the wedding-ring." After screening and allowing a short time for sand and grit to settle the sewage is run into tanks containing fragments of coke of the size of walnuts, and when a certain level is reached the inflow is stopped and the liquid allowed to remain in contact with the bacteria and coke surface for three hours. The sewage is then slowly drawn off from the bottom of the coke bed. The effluent has no offensive smell, and is, as a rule, colourless. Fish have been kept in it for many months, which shows not only a certain amount of purity but that the liquid contains plenty of dissolved oxygen. The process mentioned above is the intermittent one, but another known as the continuous process is also used. The original coke beds are from 4 to 6 feet in depth and removed 51.3 per cent. of the dissolved matter of the original sewage oxidisable by permanganate. With similar beds 13 feet deep a percentage of 64 has been reached, and as the beds "age," as much as 86 per cent. is obtained. The clear effluent still contains representatives of the original bacteria of the sewage, but as it is discharged into a part of the Thames which cannot possibly be used for drinking-purposes owing to the presence of tidal sea-water, no objection can be urged against it. The sludge from the sewage is put in vessels which hold a thousand tons, and taken out to sea,

where it is discharged by opening valves. The lecturer finished with an anecdote about a ship which collided with one of the sludge-vessels. The captain, expecting the boat to sink, stood by to render assistance, but was astounded to see it rise many feet out of the water: her captain had opened the sludge-valves.

The lecture was illustrated by lantern-slides of the bacteria of sewage, and a selection of the actual bacteria was shown under microscopes in the library.



LECTURE THEATRE, ROYAL INSTITUTION.

the temperature of liquid hydrogen for some hours. The bacteriological method of treating sewage originated with the Massachusetts Board of Health, and seven years ago was introduced as an experimental method of treating London sewage by Dibden. The bacteria which do the work of purifying the sewage are of two kinds— aerobic and anaerobic, according as they require air or work in the absence of air. It is probably enzymes secreted by the bacteria and various symbiotic changes which do the required work rather than the bacteria themselves. The sewage of London, consisting of the dejecta of its five million inhabitants, the whole of the water-supply, the rainfall of the metropolitan area, and other matter, is screened when it arrives at the outfall-works. This removes a large quantity of solid matters, such as tobacco-pipes, purses (always empty), brushes, and corks. In connection with this the lecturer read a letter which the superintendent had received from a lady in which she said she had dropped her wedding-ring down the drain and

Institution of Electrical Engineers.

AT a meeting of the Institution, held on March 8, Professor Silvanus P. Thompson in the chair, a paper was read by Dr. H. LEWIS JONES on

THE APPLICATIONS OF ELECTRICITY IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE.
He said the medical side of electricity had been prominent from the early days of the science. Electrical departments were in existence in some of the London hospitals a hundred years ago. Birch, the surgeon in charge of the electrical department at St. Thomas's Hospital in 1799, wrote a book on medical electricity; and Freke, a surgeon at St. Bartholomew's in 1729, is incidentally referred to as an authority on medical electricity in "Tom Jones."

The vitality of the subject has shown under great difficulties is significant, and the lecturer had no doubt that the present methods of distributing electricity would call into existence new instruments and new methods of treatment. At St. Bartholomew's Hospital at present six hundred cases are annually referred to the electrical department for diagnosis or treatment. The lecturer then explained the method of nerve-testing used at the hospital. An electric shock produces a muscular contraction, and, by studying the effects at opening and closing a circuit, the comparison of the action of the positive pole with the negative and the measurement of the current needed to produce visible contractions, it is a comparatively easy matter to exactly localise a cut nerve or one whose inactivity is causing a paralysed muscle. The electrical treatment of disease depends on the fact that electricity is a stimulus. Experimental work has shown that in young animals the rate of

growth can be accelerated by electrical stimulation. Débédat in the same way has proved that individual muscles can be increased in weight, while D'Arsonval has established, by elaborate calorimeter observations and chemical analyses of the expired air, that the activity of the tissue-changes of the body is increased by electricity. In cases of simple failure of nutrition and rickets excellent results have been obtained.

Electricity is often of great service in the relief of pain where there are congestion and pressure in the bloodvessels, as in sprains, sciatica, and neuralgia; the good effects of electricity are especially noticeable in removing the chronic stiffness after joint-injuries. Electricity can also be used to promote the passage of drugs into and through the skin. Cocaine has been used in this way to produce local insensibility. Electrolysis is frequently used as a means of destroying tissue. In the case of tumours metallic needles are introduced into the substance of the tumour, and the products of electrolysis are thus liberated in contact with the tissue to be destroyed. A more delicate application of this method is employed in destroying superfluous hair. The use of electricity for generating ozone, and in Röntgen-ray work, was briefly touched on, the latest use of the *x* rays for diagnosing tuberculous tissue being highly spoken of. At St. Bartholomew's Hospital the current from the mains is now used instead of the induction-coils formerly employed. The alternating-current, however, gives a disagreeable burning effect if applied through moistened electrodes to the surface of the skin, and this has led to the employment of arm-baths. The arm-bath is a stoneware trough about 2 feet long and 9 inches deep, having a metal electrode at each end. The bath is filled with warm water and the patient's forearm and hand plunged into it, and the current turned on. This method of applying electricity by means of warm-water baths was declared by the lecturer to be superior to any other. The alternating-current was also suitable for galvanocauterries and exploring-lamps. The lecturer concluded by referring to the use of statical machines which give promise of being extremely valuable in the treatment of disease. The Holtz and the Winshurst are the two kinds of statical machines employed, the output in the Holtz being, in the lecturer's opinion, somewhat better than in the Winshurst.

An interesting discussion followed, in which the relation of electricity to vital force, the design of the Ruhmkorff coil, and the means of charging accumulators were dealt with, chiefly from the point of view of the electrical engineer.

Royal Colonial Institute.

At the meeting of the Institute at the Whitehall Rooms, on March 13, Sir H. Jourdain in the chair, Dr. PATRICK MANSON, medical adviser to the Colonial Office, read a paper on

A SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

The paper was principally about malaria, and forms an interesting continuation of previous papers on the subject which have been given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The lecturer said the fact that the physician was gradually getting a voice in the management of the affairs of the country was due to the attention which modern civilisation bestowed on public health. The time had come when the boons conferred on mankind by medical science should be extended to other nations and countries. Climate, a potent factor in the grouping and distribution of animals and plants, was equally potent in the grouping of diseases, and the circumstance that each zone had certain diseases peculiar to itself formed the basis for the specialisation of the tropical group of diseases. The leading tropical diseases were:—*Epidemic*—malaria, dysentery, chronic enteritis, ankylostomiasis, beri-beri, filariasis, leprosy, and sloughing phagadæna; *Epidemic*—cholera, plague, and yellow fever. The endemic group were attended in the aggregate with a larger amount of death and suffering than the epidemic diseases, and were thus infinitely more important. Chief of the endemic diseases was malaria, from which five millions die annually in British India alone. In West Africa from this cause 28.4 per cent. of the colonial officials were lost to the Government in 1893, making the cost of government very much higher than it otherwise would be.

That disease arose from climate was a misleading fallacy; disease was not, Dr. Manson said, caused by climate, but by

beasts and plants, over whom man had dominion. The lecturer then traced the germ of malaria to the mosquito, and gave the following as the methods of stamping out malaria:—(1) Free drugging all round of the community with quinine; (2) causing all malarials to sleep under mosquito-nets or in mosquito-houses; (3) causing the uninfected to live in mosquito-proof houses; (4) killing all mosquitoes entering the house; (5) destroying the mosquito larva; (6) a combination of these methods. The public, however, would need educating up to the point of wishing for, of paying for, and of applying the means of protection science had placed at their disposal. It behoved them, meanwhile, to make the best use of the knowledge they possessed, and place the tropical medical practitioner in full possession of everything known about the cause, diagnosis, and management of tropical disease. The lecturer then alluded to some crucial experiments with the malarial mosquito which are about to be made. Two skilled observers and their servants are to sleep in a mosquito-proof house in the most malarial part of the Roman Campagna from May till October to prove that by such simple and inexpensive means as gauze door and window screens the human body can be protected from the malaria-germ. In another experiment laboratory-bred mosquitos are to be fed in Rome on patients in whose blood the tertian malaria parasite has been proved microscopically to be present. These mosquitos are then to be brought to London, and liberated in a small mosquito-house, in which one or more Englishmen, who have never been out of the country, are to sleep. It is expected that in ten days the men will develop malaria fever.

The lecturer then briefly mentioned some of the other diseases of the tropics and outlined the course of study at the London Tropical School of Medicine which was to do so much, indirectly, for the prosperity of tropical colonies. (Applause.)

An interesting series of lantern-slides was shown at the finish of the lecture, Dr. Manson explaining each slide. In the

DISCUSSION

which followed, Sir CECIL CLEMENTI SMITH said the lecturer had not exaggerated in the smallest degree the importance of the subject. In his (the speaker's) long colonial experience he had found that doctors went out with very little knowledge of those diseases which they would find common in the hospitals on their arrival, and he welcomed any contribution to the subject which science could give. The new theory, however, meant the discarding of the old theories which had served very well up till then, and although as a layman he felt much diffidence in criticising such an excellent paper, he could not help thinking that mosquitos were not the only carriers of malaria. He had known cases where disturbance of the soil had been followed by an epidemic of malaria.

The PRESIDENT of the ROYAL COLLEGE of PHYSICIANS said it was not surprising that old theories were found erroneous, considering that micro-organisms, as a cause of disease, were of comparatively recent date. There was great need of special teaching on tropical diseases, but they laboured under the disadvantage in this country of not being able to study the diseases under the same conditions as in the tropics. He thought that the part taken by one animal in transmitting disease to another would prove to be more general than was at present expected.

The PRESIDENT of the ROYAL COLLEGE of SURGEONS said there was no question that tropical diseases were a great bane to the colonies, and resulted in a great loss of skilled individuals. They might date the first step in combating malaria to the introduction of Jesuit's bark some 250 years ago, but he did not think they were at the bottom of the malaria epidemics even yet. Some of the suggestions of the lecturer—draining large countries, for instance—he thought were hardly possible. There might, in his opinion, be other means by which the germs were carried—through apes, for instance. The work might, he hoped, be usefully directed to finding some drug other than quinine for rendering persons immune: it was not agreeable to have to take quinine in perpetuity. A material such as he had in mind might be found in one of the new antitoxins.

Other speakers having made remarks, Dr. MANSON replied

that he could only say that, if those speakers who doubted his conclusions had traversed the same path as he had, they would be convinced of the truth of his conclusions. Parasites, he said, could only be propagated in certain ways, and, in the case of the malaria-parasite, there was no other way than by the mosquito. In regard to the remarks of one of the speakers about draining, it was not necessary to drain the whole of Africa, as malaria only occurred in certain defined districts; but if draining did no good, he had suggested alternative methods. He predicted that in twenty years' time the mosquito theory of the transmission of malaria would be accepted and generally acted on. (Applause.)

Chemical Society.

AT an extra meeting on Thursday, March 8, Professor WARINGTON, F.R.S., gave an account of

SOME RECENT RESEARCHES ON NITRIFICATION,

He said that though the earlier work on nitrification had been carried on in England, yet the isolation of a pure cultivation had only been effected of recent years in a Russian laboratory by Professor Winogradsky. In the process of nitrification two organisms were concerned. If a solution of ammonia-salts were seeded with the organism, it was found that the salts were rapidly changed into nitrites, that then a resting-period seemed to take place, followed by the conversion of the nitrites into nitrates. Pure cultures—*e.g.*, of the nitrite organism—had been obtained by taking, with the usual precautions, a drop of the liquid when the ammonia had just been converted into nitrites and seeding a second ammoniacal solution, and so on, through a series of growths. Several varieties of the nitrite organism had thus been obtained, but only one species of the nitrate organism seemed to exist. Photographs of these organisms were thrown on the screen. A number of diagrams were put on the board showing the composition of the nutrient media, and the rate of growth, &c.

Sir W. THISELTON DYER moved a vote of thanks to Professor Warington, and in the course of an amusing speech let fall some rather caustic criticisms on the work of Winogradsky, and on the general attitude of chemists to biological problems. He threw doubt on some of the organisms exhibited, declaring them probably to consist of two or more distinct bodies, and begged of chemists to turn their attention from bodies which had a melting-point, vapour-density, and definite physical and mechanical properties to such indefinite and important bodies as protoplasm. After a few words by Dr. HUGO MÜLLER, Professor THORPE (the President) neatly countered by reading the list of papers for the next meeting, the first of which were on the determination of vapour-densities and the properties of pure substances.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting, presided over by Mr. A. S. Buck, was held at the Royal Institution, Liverpool, on Thursday, March 8.

The PRESIDENT announced that the annual dinner would be held at the Exchange Station Hotel on Thursday evening, March 22, at 7.15 for 7.30 prompt, tickets 5s. each.

The General Purposes Committee proposed that a book or register should be kept at the Royal Institution in which members of the Association should be asked to enter the names of any rare, new, or unusual drugs, chemicals, or preparations likely to be called for in dispensing prescriptions and which they might have in stock, so that other members would know where to go for such articles in case they should be suddenly called upon to supply them.

The PRESIDENT stated that arrangements would be made during the month of April for a bicycle-run by the members, and he announced that a meeting would be held during the last week in the present month to discuss

CLAUSE 2

in the Companies Bill now before the House of Commons with the object of deciding to take steps to prevent it from becoming law. This elicited a statement from Dr. SYMES to the effect that the Law and Parliamentary Committee of

the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had decided to oppose it, and at a future time to take steps to amend the present Pharmacy Act, and that local secretaries would receive a statement to that effect from the Secretary.

Mr. J. SMITH considered, however, that the meeting was of importance in order to decide the line of action, and urged that it should be held.

Regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of Mr. Wardleworth, who was to have delivered a paper on "Impressions of a Trip in the Western Hemisphere." In his absence Mr. R. C. COWLEY gave a very instructive and important address at a moment's notice on

THE STORAGE OF DRUGS AND GALENICALS AND PHOTO-CHEMICAL INFLUENCES.

Commencing with a recapitulation of the chief phenomena of light, and of the changes wrought in chemical compounds by exposure to various parts of the spectrum, Mr. COWLEY examined with detail the various chemical bodies and preparations contained in the Pharmacopoeia with reference to their behaviour when exposed to light for lengthy periods. Certain bodies are well known to be rapidly changed by white light, and pharmacists take care to protect these by keeping them in the dark, but there are vast numbers of other substances upon which photo-chemical action is exerted, and to the preservation of which no thought is given. Besides such well-known things as prussic acid, silver, mercury, and iron salts so affected, there are many alkaloids and principles such as morphine salts and santonin which become either basic and insoluble or distinctly changed in colour by white light. In certain preparations such as liq. arseniealis light not only caused bleaching, but encouraged the growth of fungoid bodies, whilst most tinctures altered in colour and gave more or less evident deposits of oxidation-products under like conditions. Fats, fixed oils, and essential oils were all prejudicially affected by light, which caused rancidity, acidity, and change of odour and taste. These phenomena are worthy of careful consideration, and as a move towards reducing the action of light on their stock to a minimum Mr. Cowley suggested to the members that if bottles and jars were used on the shop-shelves exposed to the light it would be well if these vessels were made of orange glass so as to neutralise if possible the actinic effects of the light-rays of high refrangibility.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Cowley for his address, and for his good will in taking the duty on at so short a notice. In support of the vote Mr. DUTTON remarked upon the difficulty in obtaining shop-jars of English manufacture made of orange glass. He had tried to obtain them but was not successful.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

At a meeting of this Society on March 14, Mr. G. SQUIRE (President) read a paper on

PHARMACEUTICAL TOPICS.

He began by remarking that the one absorbing topic was the Companies Bill, and he would confine himself to a discussion of that measure and its effect on the practice of pharmacy. After recapitulating the history of the Bill, he said they were on the eve of a complete revolution of the pharmacy laws. Clauses 2 and 3 should never have been included in the Companies Bill, which was a Bill intended chiefly to regulate the formation of limited-liability companies and to suppress fraud, and had nothing whatever to do with titles. The professional side should have been dealt with in a separate Bill, and the aid of the pharmaceutical and medical societies invited for the framing thereof. As they had to deal, however, with what Parliament was doing, they must do their level best to get things as much to their desires as possible. The members of the Society were divided as to how the matter should be dealt with, and so were the members of the Council. It was a great pity they could not come to a unanimous and satisfactory decision regarding company-pharmacy. They should be prepared with some scheme to put before the Lord Chancellor that would find favour in his eyes and would be workable, without having to take to the humiliating position of regu-

lating company-pharmacy. Although companies had carried on business for years, it could not be said that they had established a legal right. It was a false position, but a very difficult one to fight against. He thought the decision at the last Council-meeting to oppose Clause 2 was a very wise one. On the question of titles they were unanimous, and it would be much better to remain as they were, and have nothing, than to accept Clause 2 in its present form. If it were passed they would be a little better off in some ways; but the advantage would be more than balanced by the degradation to their calling by the admittance of unqualified companies into the ranks of pharmacy proper. Should they, as individuals, be cheated out of their just rights because years ago an action was decided against them, and to satisfy the whim of a Lord Chancellor who happened to be interested in company-pharmacy? He said "No!" and they must bring their whole force to bear upon the members of Parliament and get Clause 2 rejected entirely. It was impossible to amend a clause in any Bill, apart from the Pharmacy Bill, that would conform to the wishes of the majority. The suggested "qualified managing director" or "qualified directorship" ideas were inconsistent with the Pharmacy Act, and tended more or less to acknowledge company-pharmacy. He suggested that they should write asking their members of Parliament to oppose Clause 2 when it reached the Committee stage. They knew how well such a method answered when the Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill was being considered, and it would do the same again. The companies were putting forth all their strength to oppose them, and would use any means in their power, fair or foul, to gain their ends.

After the paper had been discussed prizes of 10s. and 7s. 6d. were presented respectively to A. G. Yates and A. Wright for essays which they had contributed at a previous meeting on the subject of "How to Spend a Profitable Half-holiday." These prizes were contributed by the President and Mr. J. Austen.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

At the meeting of this Association held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on March 14—Mr. G. S. Woolley in the chair—Mr. J. H. HOSEASON read a paper on

COMMERCIAL GLYCEROPHOSPHATES.

He had examined a number of samples of glycerophosphates collected during the past few years with the following results:—

No.		% Pure Salt *	
1	Sod. glycerophos. 75% paste	74·8	Colour, pale straw
2	Do. do. 75 % liquid	72·2	Do. dark brown
3	Do. do. 75 % paste	75·5	Do. do.
4	Do. do. 50 % liquid	48·9	Do. do.
5	Potas. do. 75 % th'k liquid	74·9	Do. pale straw.
6	Do. do. 50 % liquid	52·3	Do. dark contains 4 % K ₂ HPO ₄
7	Calci'm do. white powder	99·2	H ₂ O 8·2 %
8	Do. do. do.	98·1	H ₂ O 9·34 %
9	Do. do. yellowish powder	97·8	H ₂ O 9·72 %
10	Iron do. scales	92·6	79·8 Fe (ous)
11	Do. do. yellow powder	91·4	50·2 Fe (ous)
12	Quin'e do. grey crys. mass	93·3	Excessive moisture
13	Do. do. do.	92·6	Do. do.

* Calculated from H₃PO₄ content, excepting 12 and 13, from alkaloid.

The author was of opinion that a great improvement has been effected recently in the manufacture of these salts, in that the charring usually occurring in combining glycerin and phosphoric acid is avoided to a great extent, so that the salts are less highly charged with colouring-matter than formerly.

Mr. Hoseason afterwards read a note on

PEPSIN-TESTING.

He first of all summarised our present knowledge of the

action of acid on albumin and the further effect of pepsin and acid in the production of peptone. He considered the B.P. test as inadequate and of little value. Any trustworthy test must be based, he said, on its peptonising, not its solvent, power, although possibly there may be a ratio existent. From experiments he had made he believed a satisfactory process might be arrived at by using syntoin as the basis. He suggested the following process tentatively:—Treatment of known weights of syntoin and pepsin in acid solution for one hour at 100° F., removal of the unaltered syntoin and proteoses by zinc sulphate, precipitation of the peptone by an excess of standard bromine-water, filtration and titration of the residual bromine. He purposed finishing these experiments and detailing them in a future paper.

Mr. GREER said Mr. Hoseason's paper was a distinct addition to their literature on the subject. The B.P. test for pepsin was too indefinite to be satisfactory.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hoseason for his notes.

THE COMPANIES BILL.

The meeting then proceeded to discuss Federation suggestions with regard to Clause 2 of the Companies Bill.

The PRESIDENT said he did not know whether the Federation proposed to collect the decisions of the Associations throughout the country and put forward that which received the majority of votes, but it was very unfortunate that it should have put forward two resolutions. Clause A secured the title, which was a logical position to take up. Clause B did not secure it.

Mr. WALTON said Clause A was what they wanted, but he was afraid that there was no hope of getting this clause adopted. Clause B he did not think would be of any benefit to them. As to putting a qualified man at the head of a company, it might cause the companies some trouble, but it could be got over. It would not prevent unqualified men from trading.

Mr. PHILLIPS (Wigan) agreed with the observations of Mr. Walton, and

Mr. KEMP said one of the trade journals had taken upon itself to anticipate the decision of the Pharmaceutical Council in this matter—not but that it had done it with the best of good faith, and with the best interests of the trade at heart. The circular-letter issued by that journal was sent to certain members of Parliament by chemists, followed by other letters from the Federation, and was thus duplicated. Then came an appeal to them to ask their members of Parliament to oppose Clause 2. Members of Parliament would naturally begin to wonder what chemists and druggists wanted. He thought it was their duty to support the action of the Pharmaceutical Council entirely in this matter, and moved—

That this meeting approves of the action of the Pharmaceutical Council in deciding to oppose Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, and promises to do all in its power to aid the Council in attaining their object.

This was seconded by Mr. PHILLIPS, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN next commented upon the desirability of chemists being included in Clause 3 of the Companies Bill, and suggested that members of the trade should use all their influence with members of Parliament to secure that desideratum. He moved—

That this meeting respectfully suggests to the Pharmaceutical Council the propriety of further agitating for the inclusion of pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists in Clause 3 of the Companies Bill.

Mr. KIDD seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the meeting then terminated.

LONDON DOCKS.—A Wharncliffe meeting of the East and West India Dock Company on Wednesday approved of the Bill now before Parliament.—A deputation from the London County Council had an interview with Mr. Ritchie on Thursday for the purpose of urging the need for a parliamentary inquiry into the whole subject of docks in London. Mr. Ritchie stated that he would represent to his colleagues that such an inquiry was necessary, and hoped to give their decision shortly.

Legal Reports.

High Court Case.

POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION v. T. A. BUXTON.

IN the Chancery Division on March 9, before Mr. Justice Byrne, Mr. Levett, Q.C., moved for an injunction to restrain the defendant from infringing the plaintiffs' trade-mark and from passing off his goods as those of the plaintiffs'. He said that the plaintiffs were an American company, and they had got a wonderful cure, called "Cuticura," which was registered as their trade-mark. Counsel explained that cuticura is an American ointment which cures everything, and had a wide reputation. The defendant was selling what he called "cuticula cream," and by that means was appropriating the plaintiffs' business. The plaintiffs had got some one to write to the defendant for "euticura cream," and back came a bottle of "euticula cream." Counsel then read the affidavit of Mr. L. Newbery, agent of the plaintiff company, to the effect that "euticura" ointment is largely advertised in Great Britain, and every effort had been made by the company to associate their trade-mark "Cuticura" in the mind of the trade and the public with their goods. In January it came to his knowledge that the defendant was advertising "cuticula cream," and he considered that its use would cause confusion and would be injurious to the plaintiffs. The defendant was not only selling "cuticula cream," but was actually fulfilling orders for "euticura cream" by selling his own article. Other evidence to the same effect was read, as well as evidence of purchase from the defendant in Chancery Lane of "euticula ercam" in response to orders for "euticura cream."

Mr. Justice Byrne granted an injunction until judgment or further order restraining the defendant from selling any salve or ointment under the name "euticula cream," or any other title colourably differing from "euticura."

Railway-charges for "Smalls."

IN the railway-rates test case (*C. & D.*, March 10, page 426) brought by Messrs. Smith & Forrest, chemical-manufacturers, Liverpool and Manchester, against the principal railway companies for a reduction of rates on goods under 3 cwt. in weight, the Railway and Canal Commissioners concluded, after the finish of the evidence on March 8, that the difference on empties did not justify their interference, and on the question of the increased rates since 1893 they decided against the applicants. Judgment on other points was reserved.

Employers' Liability Act.

THE BOTTLE BURST.

A SETTLEMENT has been effected in an action brought in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, by John Murray, Kelso, against A. Middlemass & Son, aerated-water manufacturers, Kelso, for damages in respect of injuries sustained while in the employment of the defendants. Murray was engaged affixing labels to bottles, filled with aerated waters, when a bottle burst, and a piece struck him in the left eye, which was destroyed. It was alleged that the accident was caused through the failure of the defendants to fence or properly guard the machine. The pursuer has accepted 40/- in settlement of his claim, and the action has been taken out of court.

A Postponed Action.

AT Staffordshire Assizes on March 7, an action was brought by Harry Thomas Saint, an infant, through his mother, against Mr. Edward Henry Croydon, chemist and druggist, Newcastle-under-Lyme, to recover damages for breach of apprenticeship indentures, and the return of 60/- premium paid. On the ease being called, it was intimated that defendant was too ill to appear, and, medical evidence in support of this having been given, the action was postponed till the summer assizes.

Workmen's Compensation Act.

AN AWARD GRANTED.

AT the Dartford County Court last week Elizabeth Kennerty, whose husband recently died from inhaling the fumes of carbon bisulphate at the British Viscoid Company's works at Erith, was awarded 175/- for herself and six children, 10/- to be paid for immediate expenses, and the rest at the rate of 10/- per week. Prior to agreeing to the award the firm had paid the widow 1/- per week.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re ALEXANDER ORFORD SCHORN, M.B., C.M., Gullane, N.B.

THE trustee of this estate, Mr. G. Rattray, of Haddington, intimates that the balance in hand, after paying preferential creditors and costs, was 181/- 17s. 3d. The ordinary claims amounted to 511/- 3s. 10d., and a first dividend of 6s. 8d. in the pound was paid in August of last year. The estate has now been fully realised, and a second and final dividend of 9d. per pound has been paid.

Re DERBYSHIRE MAYALL, 35 and 37 Dickinson Street, Manchester Chemical-merchant and Drysalter.

AT Manchester, on March 9, an application was made on behalf of this debtor for his discharge. Debtor was adjudicated bankrupt on August 26, 1897, and a first and final dividend of about 2d. in the pound was expected to be paid on proofs amounting to 5,068/- 7s. 5d. Particulars of the failure were given in our issues of May 7 and June 18, 1898. The Official Receiver stated that the profit and loss account, filed in connection with the realisation of the stock pledged with the Manchester Trust (Limited) and the bank, showed that the bankrupt had under-sold his stock to the extent of 256/. The Official Receiver reported that he had been guilty of an offence under the Bankruptcy Act, inasmuch as, within four months preceding the presentation of the bankruptcy petition, he had disposed of property which he had obtained on credit and had not paid for. Further, that his assets were not of a value equal to 10s. in the pound; that he had not kept proper books; and, among other offences, that he had been guilty of unjustifiable extravagance in living, "and general misconduct throughout his trading career." It was contended for the debtor that if the estate had been properly managed by the trustee the estimated sum would have been realised. The trustee opposed the granting of the discharge, and Mr. Ryland, for the creditors, also opposed. Explaining the manner in which the debtor carried on his business, Mr. Ryland quoted the case of Messrs. Boehringer, a German firm, who, prior to June, 1897, had very few transactions with the bankrupt, but in that month the latter ordered goods to the amount of 106/-, for which he gave a bill at a month. Before that bill matured he obtained two other consignments, for which he also gave bills, and he had therefore three bills running at the same time. The bankrupt dishonoured the first bill, and having two other consignments in his possession, he got hold of a fourth set of goods, pawned them, and returned the first bill. Mr. Astor, for the bankrupt, said the system of pawning goods practised by the bankrupt was very much in vogue in Manchester, and people engaged in the same trade as the debtor were perfectly conversant with the fact. The debtor went into the witness-box, and was examined at some length concerning various transactions, and he stated that he was ready to undertake to pay his creditors 50/- a year out of his salary for the next five years. His Honour, in giving judgment, said, in the meaning of the Bankruptcy Acts, such acts as the debtor had been guilty of in the conduct of his business was fraudulent, and refused the discharge.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Furniss, Mary Ann, 80 and 82 South Street, Park, Sheffield wholesale druggist and drysalter (wife of James Furniss), Trustee, Thomas H. Derecourt, 11 Bank Street, Sheffield, accountant. Dated March 6; filed March 12; liabilities unsecured, 246/- 19s. 3d.; estimated net assets, 58/- 2s. 7d. The following are scheduled as creditors:

	£ s. d.
Bush, W. J., & Co., London	34 0 0
Fry, J. S., & Sons (Limited), Bristol	12 0 0
Gibson, H. H. (Trustees of), Sheffield	11 0 0
Hawksley, C., Sheffield	10 0 0
Hodgkinson, J., Prestons & King, London	15 0 0
Kennig, R., Hillsborough	16 0 0
Midland Vinegar Company, Birmingham	38 0 0
Storry, Witty & Co. (Limited), Hull	27 0 0
Young, B., Hillsborough	15 0 0

Masters, Henry James, trading as "Pineh & Co." 5 and part of 6 Cheap Street, Bath, chemist and druggist. Trustee, Henry Butcher, Bank Chambers, Old Bond Street, Bath, accountant. Secured creditors, 600*l.* Dated March 2; filed March 9. Liabilities unsecured, 3,390*l.* 0s. 9*d.*; estimated net assets, 905*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* Among the chief trade creditors are the following:—

	£ s. d.
Allen & Hanburys, London	18 0 0
Barron, Harveys & Co., London	52 0 0
Edwards & Son, London	541 0 0
Evans, Lescher & Webb, London	69 0 0
Gilbertson & Sons (Limited), London	20 0 0
Hearon, Squire & Francis, London	109 0 0
Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, London	30 0 0
Houghton & Son, London	13 0 0
Lawson & Co., London	13 0 0
Lynch & Co. (Limited), London	24 0 0
Maw, Son & Thompson, London	44 0 0
National Cash Register Company, London	25 0 0
Rimmel, E. (Limited), London	17 0 0
Toogood & Son, London	19 0 0
Wright, Layman & Co., London	26 0 0
Bankers' claims	1,215 0 0

New Companies & Company News.

PHOTOGRAPHIC IMPROVEMENT SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of opticians, photographers, chemical-manufacturers, &c.

JOHN HARROP (LIMITED).—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. To carry on the business (*inter alia*) of chemical merchants. The first directors are J. Harrop (Chairman), S. Shore, A. Harrop, W. H. Webb, and W. Harrop.

WARD & Mc MILLAN (LIMITED).—Registered at Edinburgh. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers, &c. The first directors are A. Frazer, W. Stewart, J. Johnstone, and A. Williamson.

COPE, ROBERTS & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of drysalters, oil-merchants, varnish, polish, and soap manufacturers, &c. The first directors are G. Cope, T. S. Roberts, G. Kyffin-Taylor, and J. H. Glover.

MANUFACTURERS' AGENCY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (5,000 "A" and 5,000 "B"). Objects: To carry on the business (*inter alia*) of chemical merchants and surgical-instrument makers. Registered office, 19 Upton Street, Manchester.

HARRINGTON & CO. (SOUTHEND), LIMITED.—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers carried on at Southend as "Harrington & Co." Registered office, 52-4 London Road, Southend.

PALATINE SOAP COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of soap-manufacturers, oil-refiners, chemical-manufacturers, drysalters, &c., carried on by C. H. Parsons at Salford, Lancs, who may act as sole director at 2*l.* a week, or appoint others.

BENJAMIN ROBINSON & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (7,400 preference). Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business carried on by Benjamin Robinson at 46 Church Street and Denmark Street, Pendleton, to adopt an agreement with the said vendors, and to carry on the business of manufacturing and pharmaceutical chemists, vinegar-makers, distillers, manufacturers of scientific, optical, chemical, and philosophic apparatus, &c. The subscribers are:—B. Robinson, 16 Fitzwarren Street, Pendleton, chemist; W. B. Robinson, 18 Fitzwarren Street, Pendleton, chemist; E. H. Robinson, Nottingham Terrace, Weaste, surgeon; R. S. Noar, 3 White Street, Seedley, Pendleton, traveller; F. G. Robinson, Great Clowes Street, Lower Broughton, surgeon; Mrs. M. Robinson, 16 Fitzwarren Street, Pendleton; Mrs. Mary E. Robinson, 18 Fitzwarren Street, Pendleton; and Mrs. Ada F. Robinson, 427 Nottingham Terrace, Weaste. The first directors are Benjamin Robinson, W. B. Robinson, E. H. Robinson, R. S. Noar, and F. G. Robinson. Remuneration of W. B. Robinson, 26*l.* per annum; of E. H. Robinson, 20*l.* per annum; and of R. S. Noar, 18*l.* per annum. [Mr. Benjamin Robinson informs us that this undertaking is strictly private, and no shares will be offered either to the trade or the public. The directors are himself, his sons, and Mr. R. S. Noar, who for upwards of twenty years has been connected with the business.—
EDITOR]

A. & F. PEARS (LIMITED).—The directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the six months ended December 31, 1899.

ANGLO-SICILIAN SULPHUR COMPANY (LIMITED).—The directors have declared an interim dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum for the half-year ended January 31.

BOOTS CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN) (LIMITED).—A quarterly dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the preference shares, and at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares is announced.

SALT UNION (LIMITED).—At the meeting held in Liverpool on March 2 the Chairman (Mr. T. B. Royden) stated that some form of reconstruction would have to be undertaken when the company got on a solid working basis, and the matter would receive the earnest attention of the directors.

UNITED ALKALI COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report of the directors of this company, to be submitted at the meeting to be held at Liverpool on March 16, states that for 1899 there is a net profit of 193,766*l.*, which is increased to 228,043*l.* with 29,277*l.* brought forward. An interim dividend on the preference shares at 7*s.* per share for the first half of the year has been paid, and the directors now recommend a dividend at the same rate, leaving 33,838*l.* to carry forward.

VIROL (LIMITED).—The statutory general meeting of this company was held on March 14 at Winchester House, E.C., Mr. Bertram S. Straus presiding. The Chairman, after referring to the fact that the meeting was merely a formal one, explained at length the properties of virol. He quoted the experiments of Professor Fraser, Dr. Dixon Mann, and others as to the value of red bone-marrow in cases of anaemia. He congratulated the meeting on the fact that the company were daily receiving large repeat-orders. A large number of agencies had been opened, and sales were increasing substantially week by week. They had no wish to overstock the trade, and their efforts would be chiefly directed to create a demand. He wished particularly to thank Mr. Scarl, their chemist, and Mr. Cauny, their managing director, for their energy and ability. The Board had resolved to make a call of 5*s.* per share on or before April 7. Mr. Lawson Johnston also spoke, and said that Bovril (Limited) did not meet with anything like the amount of success during the first twelve months of its existence that Virol (Limited) had experienced during the first seven weeks. He complimented the company on its board of directors, and said the company had the best wishes of Bovril (Limited). A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY (LIMITED).—The annual meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at Cannon Street Hotel on March 9. The Chairman (Mr. T. C. Wright) made this interesting statement regarding paraffin:—

Until 1873 paraffin as a candle-making material had been produced almost wholly in Scotland and Germany. In that year the first importation of paraffin obtained from American petroleum took place. The importation grew steadily year by year till about six years ago it began to increase largely, and it had been estimated that last year's production of crude paraffin in America, Scotland, Germany, Rangoon, and elsewhere exceeded 120,000 tons. Production exceeded consumption, and the Americans reduced the price to a very low level, so that during the year ending March 31 the supplies had been unprecedentedly large and the price low. The natural result had been that the price of paraffin candles had been low also, their sale had increased, candle-makers had realised a good profit on a large tonnage, and on the candles not sold under contract for delivery throughout the year ending March 31 much larger profits had been made than were anticipated. But that had now changed. There would be 15 percent less American paraffin, and it would cost 82 per cent. more.

After the report had been adopted, the Chairman referred in warm terms to the services rendered to the company by the Secretary (Mr. Withall) during the past fifty years, and proposed that the company should present him with 1,000 guineas. The motion was seconded by Sir Peter Spokes, and agreed to.

EDINBURGH PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of members of this association "opposed to the present committee, on account of their misuse of proxies and irregular proceedings in order to obtain fees," was held in Edinburgh on March 8. It was

pointed out that during the past year there had been a very serious falling-off in the business, and surprise was expressed at the very small margin of profit on the trading of the last six months. The store, it was stated, was not in a position at the present time to dispose of goods without receiving cash for them, and since the present committee came into office there had been much dissatisfaction among the employés, and several heads of departments had been compelled to resign. Attention was drawn to the fact that in the report issued by the committee for the previous six months a profit had been shown of about 2,800*l.*, whereas for the present six months the profit realised was stated to be 313*l.* only. The present members of the committee accounted for the discrepancy by the war now going on having curtailed the purchase of luxuries and the interchange of social functions, but this could only have been operative for a short period, and it was not believed to be the root cause of the loss. Indignation was expressed that with such a miserable profit as 313*l.* shown for this half-year, the committee should still desire to be remunerated by a sum almost identically equivalent thereto. The members proposed for a new committee claim to be equal in business experience to the committee at present in office, and they are willing to act without remuneration.

MAGOR (LIMITED).—The advisory committee appointed at the meeting held on February 8 have issued a report in which they recommend the formation of a new company under the name of "Thomas Needham (Limited)," with a capital of 20,000*l.*, divided into 10,000 6-per-cent. cumulative shares and 10,000 ordinary shares; that Mr. Thomas Needham should be the chairman and managing director for five years; and that two of the present directors of Magor (Limited) should be directors of the new company, which would take over all the assets and liabilities of Magor (Limited) in consideration of 7,500 preference shares and 1,500 ordinary shares fully paid, the shares to be issued amongst the shareholders of Magor (Limited) in proportion to their present holdings—in the case of preference shareholders five shares of 1*l.* each for every four shares of 5*l.* each, and in the case of ordinary shareholders one fully paid-up share for every twenty shares. Mr. Needham undertakes to find 3,000*l.* additional cash capital on condition that the directors or shareholders of Magor (Limited) subscribe for 1,500 shares. The directors of Magor (Limited) will undertake this responsibility, but will first offer the shares for subscription to the shareholders *pro rata* according to their present holdings. So far as preference shareholders are concerned, it is pointed out that the value of the 7,500 preference shares, if taken at par, is probably as great as the sum they would receive if the company were liquidated at the ordinary par. One-half of the profits of the new company will go to the shareholders of the new company, inasmuch as such shareholders will have half the ordinary capital. The shareholders met at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on March 14 to consider the proposals. Mr. Smith, who presided, moved a resolution to the effect that the company sell their assets to Mr. Thomas Needham for 9,000*l.*, that gentleman providing 3,000*l.* working capital, and agreeing to act as managing director for five years. Two things, said Mr. Smith, were necessary—more money and a better management. Mr. Needham had paid 10 per cent. on the ordinary shares of the company with which he was connected. Mr. Martin Magor affirmed that while he had charge of the business it paid, but he had been bothered by the directors, and finally asked to resign. A shareholder described the whole concern as a farce and a sham. Mr. Bailey, as the largest shareholder, expressed disapproval of the proposed scheme. Quite an uproar followed the amendment, several shareholders rising to speak at the same time. Mr. A. E. Farquharson declared that amputation was necessary, and he strongly advised it at once. Mr. Grove declared it was idiotic to sell the businesses for 9,000*l.* when one alone was worth 7,000*l.* "Smash the concern up and sell in parts" was his advice. Mr. Brampton described the directors as drowning men clutching at a straw. Mr. Edge (a solicitor) said if the resolution was not carried the concern must go into the hands of the official receiver. Eventually the resolution was carried by the preference shareholders, but rejected by a large majority of ordinary shareholders. A poll will be taken on Monday.

DAVID THOM, DOMEIER & Co. (LIMITED).—The annual meeting of the shareholders was held at Manchester on March 7, Mr. Frank A. Roberts presiding. In moving the adoption of the directors' report, the Chairman attributed the unsatisfactory condition to enhanced prices of raw materials and to the manufacture of glycerin being unprofitable and unsatisfactory. Largely-increased advertising had not been resorted to, because unusual extension in that direction would stimulate extra competition by opposing firms. A prize-scheme had been initiated, which it was hoped might increase the sale of soap, the prizes being provided by one of the directors. The plant for the glycerin was inefficient, and one of the directors (Mr. Ormrod) had consented to bear the expense of a larger engine. There had since been an improvement. Councillor Dreyfus said it was in the manufacture of glycerin that the old firm made large profits before the amalgamation, and it was on the strength of those large profits, as set forth in the prospectus, that the shares of the company were applied for. If the process carried on successfully for so many years had suddenly gone wrong, it seemed to point to some radical defect in the management of the works. It was the duty of the directors to call in experts to discover what was wrong, instead of fiddling away and losing the trade. The Chairman said the company did not buy the business direct from those who formerly carried it on, but from a company of promoters, who made some alterations in the glycerin-plant while it was under their control. When the plant was supposed to be complete the machinery for working was found to be insufficient. Owing to the busy state of the machinery-trade considerable delay was experienced, the necessary installation only having been made in the middle of last December. Mr. C. W. Provis thought the company was not up to date in advertising, and moved as an amendment that the ordinary shareholders be paid a dividend of 2 per cent. Another shareholder said it seemed to him, from the remarks of the chairman, that in taking over the manufacture of glycerin the company had taken over an effete concern. Mr. Ormrod said the glycerin-department had certainly not answered their expectations. Mr. F. Hampson said it had not been satisfactorily explained why this concern, which was represented to be making a profit year after year of 20,000*l.* or 22,000*l.* a year, had lost 11,000*l.* in the first year it was floated and 13,000*l.* in the second year. A shareholder, who said he was a chemist and druggist, asked why the directors continued the manufacture of glycerin if they could not compete with other firms; to which the Chairman replied that they never had any stock on hand, and were able to sell all they could turn out. Ultimately the report was adopted, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. R. Johnson, C. W. Provis, Charles Darbshire, Herbert Appleby, and T. Clarke, was appointed to confer with the board as to the appointment of additional directors, Mr. Phillips, one of the retiring directors, having been rejected.

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

Moore, D., and Moore, W., under the style of G. Moore & Sons, Great Tower Street, E.C., and Bowles Wharf, Ratchiff E., glass-bottle merchants.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Fairburn, William, Springfield, Essex, mineral-water manufacturer.

Scotland.

SEQUESTRATION.

Morrison, A., 136 Coweaddens, Glasgow, chemist and druggist. Creditors will meet in the Faculty Hall, St. George's Place, March 22, at 12 o'clock. Borland, King & Shaw, 142 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, agents.

At the Anxieties.

Revival of "Slothful Silence."
(BY OUR OWN DRAMATIC CRITIC.)

TO those of us who can roll back the curtain of memory three decades the present revival at the Anxieties is fraught with an absorbing interest not untinged with melancholy, for it reminds us of those days when such sterling actors as St. Fort and Idylls strutted the pharmaceutical stage, beguiling the craft by their eloquence and power. In more recent years under the sway of the incomparable Mykelkarté, who wore with supreme dignity the mantle which the protean Jacobella had fashioned for his fellows, the drama of the craft reached its zenith. To old stagers, therefore, a pathetic touch tinges Mr. Cavendish Strete's revival of the old blank-verse drama. The original cast, as announced a fortnight ago (page 390), has undergone slight variation, Mr. Mykelkarté being content to play a walking-gentleman's part.

The play differs from previous representations in several respects. In the first act a new and very dramatic situation is created by the production of the secret *dossier* (typed-written) of the House Committee by Mr. Glone Gwynns. The uneasy air of simulated indifference assumed by the principals, who so lately had scornfully refused the production of this document, is in striking contrast to the young actor's glowing triumph. We look for much from Mr. Glone Gwynns. With further training and a proper appreciation of the benefits to be derived from association with the wisdom and ripe experience of such masters of the art as Mykelkarté and Salisbury, Mr. G. G. may in time acquire qualities which will carry him far. Throughout the entire piece he acted with energy and ability, and did not miss a single point.

The work of revision in the reconstruction of the drama is most evident in the second act. The Over-Lord (Mr. Cavendish Strete) lays bare all the elements of his well-worn enigma in a somewhat new guise. The scene between the Ruler of the Commerce and the Over-Lord and his Viceroy is repeated, and the *dénouement* is reached in the enunciation of the Covenant of the Faithful :—

The Thing uncleanly with our might oppose
Till It is dropped, or passed, or something done
By someone else ; of this let us be sure—
That we at least do Nothing.

The rendering of these lines by Mr. Cavendish Strete was slightly halting and ineffective. In fact, his entire attitude lacked realism. The unsympathetic part of Leader of the Unprincipled was played with spirit and earnestness by Mr. Oxford Mountains, a gentleman who is justifying his selection for a leading rôle by honest and fearless effort as well as capable performance. One of the greatest hits in the piece occurs in the scene in which the Leader rejects with fine scorn the suggestions of the Over-Lord to resort to amendment-making on the lines laid down by Cupid and Harpoocrates. He declaimed with rare vigour the Aim of the Unprincipled :—

To do that which lies nearest is the plain
And obvious duty of all earnest men ;
Seeking for much, it may be getting naught,
But striving strenuously and shirking not
For craven fear of failure.

The "burning bridge" sensation of Mr. Salisbury was received with well-deserved applause. The art of this eloquent player becomes milder with the flight of time. Great disappointment was expressed when it was made known that the Youthful Bard would not appear. No explanation was tendered as to the cause of his non-appearance, but we have heard it stated that, being gifted with an intelligent anticipation of events before they occur, he, after consultation with a brother Oracle, who is touring Lancashire with a successful comedy of his own, decided to leave his part to Mr. Home Nuisse; but the dual rôle of Viceroy and Bard seemed to weigh heavy upon this actor, and awoke no enthusiasm. His best effort was the "Exerc-

ence" interlude, the verses being set to a catchy air by Sig. Gyffardi. We quote the first and last verses :—

If you're suffering throes from a wart on the nose
Or a pimple of prime adolescence,
Never kick, never swear, never give it a care,
For "it's merely an outside excrescence."

* * * * *

So if Boot, or if Day, opens over the way,
And your business assumes effervescence,
And at length disappears you must never have fears,
For "it's merely an outside excrescence."

The revival is regarded as a distinct triumph by the management, and though the *tout ensemble* may leave a certain sense of dissatisfaction in the minds of carping critics, not even the most captious amongst them will allege that the action differs in any essential from the most crusted traditions.

The Irresponsible Critic

Breaks out in New Places.

On Some Miserable Sinners.—There exist certain wretched individuals who have allowed the much-talked-of "vested rights" of company traders in drugs to accumulate for twenty years. What should one do with such as these, who have rendered the poor chemist and druggist's chance of a livelihood almost impossible? The I.C. strongly urges that they should be commandeered and drafted by the next transport sailing to the Front—the *very front*.

On an Inconsiderate Early closing Movement.—"There once was a time," said my Seedy Jones, "when I could go to the Square and do a little work with a friend in the library of an evening; but ever since the early-closing movement I have been debarred the opportunity of referring to authorities and refreshing my memory on points of *materia medica* and chemistry. Mr. Knajzman might sacrifice his long 'clay,' say, at any rate, two evenings a week. I should like Monday afternoon off just to go round and see that the Square Library yet exists."

On Fair Play.—At a dinner given (*i.c.*, 5s. per man including reporters—a "square" meal, but same *menu* as for years past) by the School of Pharmacy, Professor Norman Collie was minded to speak of football as played by the "School" club. He commenced by dilating on their glorious victories, and then went on to say, in a manner tinged with an edge of possible cynicism, these four words: "There is a cup." There was no doubt in his mind that "the cup" would fall into the hands of the players of the School of Pharmacy. It seemed to me that some slight acknowledgement might surely have been accorded the genial donor of the cup in question. Such condescension was apparently impossible. The facts are these. The idea of inter-college football was last year promulgated by the Square. The trophy to be fought for could not be agreed about, whereupon Mr. Watsou Will, of the Metropolitan College (an old "Square" man), came forward and generously offered a cup for competition. The teams competing are those of "The Square," the Metropolitan, South Loudon, London, and the Westminster Colleges. As matters stand (see *C. & D.* last week), if the "Metro's" beat "South London," they will tie with the "Square"; but if "South London" win, Professor Collie's prophecy will come true—it will be a walk-over for "The Square." But will it?

On the Impossibility of Things.—Mr. Ritchie and I agree on a good many things. Turning my analytical searchlight upon the Council members' minds, what do I find? A mingled assortment, comprising "one-man" pharmacists, "company" pharmacists, and "wavers"—those who might embrace the delights and pleasures of company-pharmacy at any moment, if it were to their pecuniary advantage. It was, and may be, clearly impossible for a so hopelessly mixed community to come to any definite decision, or to "frame a clause" to satisfy any minds other than their own individually. [Written March 5.]

On Competition.—A neighbour sells windowfuls of Epsom salts and bicarbonate of soda at 1d. per lb. each, and gives away razors with sixpenny sticks of shaving-soap.

On Boredom and Quasi-Sincerity.—My Seedy Jones says he prefers taking out his best girl to attending convivial entertainments if they include wearisome after-dinner speeches. He complains particularly of a man propounding excessively rash promises on the chemist's academic prospects by the half-hour together. (Whew, the S.J. with a London degree!) He also requires the blood of the man whose rhapsodical praise of his Square examiners twenty years ago is childish and manifestly insincere.



TO CORRESPONDENTS—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Pharmaceutical Council Election.

SIR,—I believe that there are a large number of members of the Society who, like myself, are convinced of the necessity for securing the return of at least three or four new members to the Council at the forthcoming election. Past experience has shown that unless some concerted action is taken the success of new candidates is doubtful. I believe that if those who feel strongly the need for change in the *personnel* of the Council will act together that we should be able to achieve our object. I should therefore be glad to receive a postcard from every member of the Society who shares these views. I should also be obliged if any member who has been nominated as a candidate, and who would appreciate such organised support, will communicate with me.

Yours faithfully,
W. S. GLYN-JONES.

159 East India Dock Road, Poplar, E.,
March 14.

SIR,—I have been strongly pressed by numerous friends to come forward again as a candidate for the Pharmaceutical Council, and this I should have liked to do, but I am met by a difficulty which is, I fear, insuperable—namely, that the date and time of meeting of the Council are the same as those fixed by our City Council at Oxford, at the meeting of which I must be present, as, being Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, with its numerous sub-committees, there are often matters of importance brought forward which demand my presence. Moreover, I do not believe in half-hearted work. Therefore I regret very much to say that I shall be unable to avail myself of the kind offices of my friends who expressed a wish to nominate me. At the same time I offer them my very hearty thanks, and also the large number of my *confrères* who supported me at the last election. I take this early opportunity of communicating my decision, which the clashing of the dates of meeting alone has caused, because I am starting for North Africa on March 14, and shall not be back till nearly the end of April.

I am, yours very sincerely,
GEORGE CLARIDGE DRUCE.

118 High Street, Oxford, March 10.

SIR,—We have abundant evidence that our legislators are determined to keep the handling and sale of poisons in competent hands. Let us return to our Council men pledged to the following policy—*i.e.*, to ask Parliament to protect titles and maintain the principles of one-man chemists as laid down by existing pharmacy law, and in event of refusal at once throw back to Westminster the Charter and all its belongings. Chemists cannot make bricks without some of the elements of straw.

Yours truly,

Hayward's Heath.

A. O. HAYS.

Stamping-fees.—Glass Measures.

SIR,—Having read in your journal of March 3 the report and leaderette in reference to the deputation of the City of London Corporation to the Board of Trade upon the question of uniformity of stamping-fees, I beg permission to correct what otherwise might prove a misapprehension, particularly among chemists and druggists. In your leaderette you allude to graduated glass measures as being in dispute between the Corporation and the London County Council. I beg to state that the stamping-fees brought under the notice of the President of the Board of Trade on February 12 applied only to those in respect of publicans' glass measures, and not to graduated glass measures or any other denomination of weights or measures. I think it my duty to call

your attention to this fact, and can assure you that the Corporation are only desirous of obtaining uniformity in carrying out the Weights and Measures Acts.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. J. STREET

(Chief Inspector to the Corporation of London),
Weights and Measures Office,
42-46 Whitecross Street, March 12.

[We are obliged to Mr. Street for making this matter clear, but may point out that although the letter of February 12 may have been specific on the point, the reports of the interview on February 26 (to which we solely referred) were not so. —EDITOR.]

Citral in Lemon Oil.

SIR,—I notice the letter from the chemists to the London Essence Company in your last issue, referring to the citral-content of oil of lemon. As they are investigating the question themselves, any discussion at the present moment is unavoidable, and would probably degenerate into a series of *ipsi dixerunt*. I shall await with interest the publication of their promised paper, but, without venturing into the regions of discussion, I may point out that every recognised authority on oil of lemon, with the exception of this company's chemists, admits a much higher citral-content than the very low one suggested by the London Essenee Company. If they are able to maintain their position, then everybody else will be wrong.

ERNEST J. PARRY.

The Pharmaceutical Position.

SIR,—The curious anomaly has now existed for more than twenty years that it is not absolutely necessary that a man need pass any examination in order to style himself a chemist and druggist. Whilst the law says that no one shall keep open shop for the retailing and dispensing of poisons without passing the examination which gives the legal qualification, the House of Lords, in the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* the London and Provincial Supply Association, has practically said to young men: "There is really no need to spend time and money over this legal qualification. You can go into business without doing so. All that is necessary is that you allow six of your friends or relations to have at least one share in the concern each, which you may pay for yourself if you like, make a present to them of the share, call the firm a limited liability company, and keep one qualified man as cover to serve out the poisons; then, as far as we care [*i.e.*, the House of Lords in this matter the law], we have not the slightest objection to your putting your name and 'chemist and druggist' over the shop-door and on all your printed matter, and trade as such, only add that magic word limited after your name, and it will be all right. No one can interfere with you, and to show you how delightfully safe you are, if you like, one or two of us learned law lords will take a few shares in the concern."

Now, Sir, is it not really time this condition of things is put a stop to? What is the good of the law saying that one person must qualify by examination and at the same time saying that, if he so chooses, he need not bother, and point out the *modus operandi* of evading the Pharmacy Acts as related above? Nothing short of a new clause added to the 1868 Act can remedy this absurd position and make it impossible for seven or more persons to do what one alone is forbidden to. There is the time coming when the trade—at least, that portion which is attached to the Pharmaceutical Society—may show its determination to put an end to this trouble by returning to the Council seven members pledged to do all in their power to alter the preposterous anomaly of one firm qualifying by examination and another by capital.

We hear of vested interests when this is mentioned. In my humble opinion, there is only the vested interest of the properly qualified man to consider. The capitalist should not be considered at all, since he has stolen a position which was never rightfully his, nor is still. Why should he be allowed to sneak the living of so many chemists whilst the assistant has probably left business for a while to qualify as a future master?

The attitude of the Government in attempting to legalise and regulate the evil from which we, as a class, have so patiently and foolishly suffered so long shows plainly that, unless chemists will themselves combine to prevent this

grievance extending, then the Government must control it themselves.

Yours faithfully,

C. E. PICKERING.

97 High Street, Manchester Square, W.

The Companies Bill.

SIR,—Supplementing my letter in last week's issue (page 443), I sketch broadly the lines of a *modus vivendi* which I had in my mind when writing it. The present position places drug companies and individual chemists in hostile camps. Both handle the same commodities, and both seek all possible profit. The one common ground on which both would combine is that measure which will secure increase of business to both. All drug companies of any standing employ qualified chemists. Let this be accepted as fulfilling the requirements of the law, but have it made a legal condition that every shop or department dealing in drugs for medicinal use shall be personally in charge of a qualified chemist, and that it shall not be legal to sell drugs by retail for medicinal use except under those conditions. The frank acceptance of the position that now obtains would disarm the objection, and probably, if diplomatically conducted, secure the support, of the great companies to that larger measure of enfranchisement which is shadowed above.

Yours very truly,

DIPLÔMAT. (23/45.)

Companies' Assistant writes protesting against being coerced into writing to his M.P., but he does not send his name and address.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

A *Rank Outsider* should send us his name and address, "as a guarantee of good faith."

27/20. A. B.—Rectified spirit, 1 in 4, will keep most vegetable preparations. So will the same proportion of glycerin. You should tell us exactly what the preparation is which you wish to preserve.

27/22. *Codex*.—Messrs. Williams & Norgate, Henrietta Street, Strand, W.C., would be able to supply "Varnish Codex"; but it is hardly worth while buying a copy now, as the new edition will be furnished in the course of the year, or early next year.

21/48. *Pharmacy*.—If you want to adhere strictly to the letter of the Pharmacy Act you can use another flavouring-water in place of the aq. chloroformi in the non-poisonous tonic (*C. & D.*, March 3, page 392). A little glycerin should be added to sweeten the mixture.

9/23. *Inquiries*.—The sample is *Pistaria Gout-powder*, of which Sir Willoughby Wade has recently sent the following particulars to the *British Medical Journal*:

The label on the packet of this powder states that it is "based on gentian and Indian wood." From this fact, and an examination of a sample, it is probable that it is a variant of the "Portland gout-powder," from which it differs in containing guaiacum, one of the synonyms of which is "lignum indicum." A. J. L. Jourdan, in his *Pharmacopée Universelle* (J. B. Baillière, Paris and London, 1828) gives the following formula of the Portland powder: Gentian-root, round birthwort-root (*Aristolochia rotunda*), ground pine-root (*Tenuerium Chamæpitys*), the tops of germander *Teucrium Chamædrys*, and of the lesser centaury (*Erythraea Centaurium*), of each equal parts, to be ground *separately* to a fine powder and mixed; dose, 3ss. He gives of this three variants, one of which omits the gentian and puts in guaiacum. The pistaria powder is probably the last with the gentian restored. None of these powders is a panacea for gout. To my knowledge, a patient who was on one occasion much benefited by the pistaria powder recurred to it some two years afterwards without the slightest benefit. The cases in which a *mélange* of this kind may be useful are, as might be guessed from the quality of each constituent, those in which there is atony of the intestinal canal and stomach, and perhaps also in other cases when there is marked asthenia. There is no reason to suppose that the pistaria is superior to the Portland

powder. The best way to take this is to add to it a sufficiency of water to make it into a paste, and so take it an hour before breakfast, for three or four weeks or longer according to the effects.

7/30 (*Collection*) and 11/6 (*Jacques*).—Drying plants for Herbaria.—First of all provide some sheets of stout mill-board and a quire or so of blotting-paper, cutting the mill-board and blotting-paper to the same size. Newspapers, rolled cotton-wool and tissue-paper will also be needed. The plants are by preference gathered on a fine, dry day, damp specimens entailing much more trouble to preserve. On a piece of the millboard lay two or three thicknesses of newspaper and a sheet of blotting-paper, and on top place the specimen, arranging it as natural as possible. Then cover the plant with more blotting-paper and newspaper, and so on till all the specimens are disposed of. A sheet of millboard is put on the top and interposed here and there if the pile is very thick. Tissue-paper is used to place over delicate flowers, and in cases where the stalk of a plant is thick the sides are padded with cotton-wool so as to make the pressure even. The package of plants is then placed under weights or in a press, such as described by Mr. Fred Reynolds in the *C. & D.*, November 6, 1897. After twenty-four hours the packing is entirely replaced by dry paper, the process being repeated every twenty-four hours until the plants are perfectly dry. The paper taken out of the press must be thoroughly dried before it is used again. Special botanical drying-paper is sold, but ordinary blotting-paper answers the purpose well. It hastens drying a little if the papers when changed are used hot. The colours of the flowers will be perfectly preserved if the drying has been quickly and systematically done.

14/66. *Oak-stain* :

Vandyke brown	...	...	...	2½ oz.
Ammonium carbonate	...	...	1 oz.	
Potassium bichromate	...	...	½ oz.	
Sodium carbonate	...	...	...	½ oz.
Water	...	...	...	2 pints

Boil for ten minutes, and strain.

A solution of potassium permanganate is also used, but the colour is not so nice as that obtained with the above stain.

You should tell your customer that it is not usual to wash stained floors, but to give them a coat of beeswax and turpentine on the top of the stain.

14/44. *Borax*.—(1) *Estimating Camphor in Spirit and Liniment*.—Full particulars were given of the best process for doing this in the Winter Number last year, page 154. To estimate the camphor in camphorated chalk, dissolve out the camphor by means of spirit, and proceed as for spirit of camphor. (2) *Ink for Typewriter-ribbons*.

Castor oil	...	...	...	2 parts
Carbolic acid	...	...	...	1 part
Oil of cinnamon	...	...	...	1 part
Any oil-soluble aniline dye	...	...	...	1 part

28/9. *E. W. M.*—We gave full information about the Naunheim treatment and the salts used, in the *C. & D.*, August 26, 1899, page 362.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

27/42. Casareep (a kind of soy): where obtainable?

23/16. Makers or dealers in disinfecting-cakes in which naphthalen is combined with carbolic acid.

25/61. Makers of effervescing-lemonade crystals or powder in decorated tins to retail at 4d. or 4½d.

28/11. Name and address of the London chemist who puts up "Sir Andrew Clark's Pills" in small wooden vials.

29/24. Makers of "Queen's Bouquet" soaps and perfumes.

29/13. Maker of machine for cutting bandages.

29/20. Varnish for gold-paints: where obtainable?

Brokers' Contract-notes.

A MEETING was called on Tuesday by the London Chamber of Commerce of produce-brokers and others to confer with a deputation which was to wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the Wednesday morning *re* the tax on brokers' contract-notes. At the appointed hour a number of interested persons appeared at the offices of the London Chamber of Commerce, but were met with a typewritten notice on the door to the effect that it had not been found necessary to hold the meeting at all, as private information had come to hand with regard to the matter. A number of trade associations had expressed their desire to be represented upon the deputation, and these, so far as the London Chamber of Commerce could make out, were all that would be in any way concerned in the scope of the tax.

At the Board-room of the Treasury Offices, Whitehall, on March 14, a deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to ascertain his intentions with regard to the tax. The deputation included Sir Reginald Hanson; Mr. J. Innes Rogers (Travers & Sons, wholesale grocers), Deputy-Chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce; Mr. H. W. Price (Prie, Hickman & Co.) and Mr. Andrew Devitt (Lewis & Peat), representing the General Produce-brokers' Association; Mr. A. Boden (Corrie, McCall & Co., colonial brokers); Mr. Kenric B. Murray (Secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce), and gentlemen representing other trades. The deputation was introduced by Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., and during the introductory stages the proceedings were private, but the press were subsequently admitted.

Mr. Innes Rogers, having stated the objects of the deputation, said the tax if fixed would be a great hardship to London brokers. They would be compelled to import goods direct and pass the brokers by. They had already a heavy tax on delivery orders, warrants, and bills of lading.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: You don't pay all these, though.

Mr. Rogers: Yes, but we do.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: Oh, no, no, no! Many of the stamps don't fall to your lot to pay.

Continuing, Mr. Rogers said if the tax was imposed they should consider it very unfair to the brokers and should try to evade it in every way, and there were several ways of evading it, but the consequences would be a considerable upset to business. He asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer not to throw the whole Chamber of Commerce into confusion for the sake of making up the 150,000*l.* required by the Budget.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: That is absurd after what I have previously told you.

Mr. Devitt: We are in a totally different position to the Stock Exchange brokers, who are protected. We are not protected in any way, though perhaps it would be better for us if we were. A great deal of business is done in our trades by agents who come from Germany, open offices, and sell goods for small commissions. They have cut into our business immensely. The brokerage that these agents charge in some cases is 2*s.* 6*d.* per cent., and if they had to pay 1*s.* to the purchaser for the contract-note and 1*s.* to the buyer it would mean 2*s.*, or 80 per cent. of the whole amount they are likely to gain. As we stand now we pay something like 2*s.* 10*s.* on every 1,000*l.* worth of stuff.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: The tax at present stands at only 1*d.* on the 100*l.*

Mr. Devitt: But the goods might not be sorted or sifted, and we should not be in a position to know whether to put a 1*d.* stamp on or 1*s.* We sell the most of our goods by public auction, and under such circumstances how will our contracts be varied by this tax? As it is now, we might have a catalogue of from 700 to 1,500 lots which might go to 300 buyers. Are we to send one contract-note to the seller if all the lots are his, and 300 to the various buyers?

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: One contract would do; but you appear to be acting more to the buyer in the way of an auctioneer than a broker.

Mr. Devitt: The bidder at the auction is not the buyer.

Mr. Rogers: Mr. Devitt means to say that he sells for the importing-agent to the brokers.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: And he appears to me to be

more in the position of an auctioneer than a broker. I never intended that this should apply to auctioneers, but to brokers, and it should be easy to define the two.

Mr. H. W. Price said it seemed very unfair that their businesses should be taxed, and that agents on the Corn Market, Coal Exchange, and other places, were not. At the present time the whole of the European business was done by agents, and not by brokers. As regards selling, they were brokers first and auctioneers after.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: I should like to see specimens of both the buying and selling contracts.

Sir Regd. Hanson said if Mr. Chancellor did not wish to tax the auctioneer as an auctioneer he would have very great difficulty in preventing it.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach: That is my reason for asking for specimens of the bought and sold contracts.

In reply to the deputation, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said they brought before him two points, the first being the difference between the Stock Exchange and the Produce Exchange, and in the second it was said that there was no possible means to discover the value of the contract, whether it would require a 1*d.* or a 1*s.* stamp, and he would closely consider the matter. There appeared to be no doubt that there was a radical difference between the Produce Exchange and the Stock Exchange, inasmuch as one was a close corporation and the other was not. Sir Michael said he should like to know the opinion of the deputation with regard to a proposal that he had to make, and that was that in the Stamp Act of 1891 it was specified that 6*d.* stamps should be affixed to certain documents referring to memoranda of agreement, except as to the sale of goods which only required 1*d.*; would they object to the repeal of that Act so as to include the sale of goods including a 6*d.* stamp, except, of course, those under 100*l.*?

Several members of the deputation spoke upon the point and said that they did not consider that it could possibly work, and Sir Michael said he should, therefore, have to consider what was the best to be done.

The deputation then thanked the Chancellor and withdrew.

A second deputation, representing the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, the general brokers, the corn trade, the cotton, provision, fruit, timber, wool, African, iron, tobacco, and other trades, then waited upon the Chancellor, to whom he gave the same reply. He said it seemed to him that there was a great deal more speculating in Liverpool, where brokering was done, than in London. The deputation then withdrew.

TEXT OF THE CLAUSE.

The Financ Bill which deals with this matter has been printed. It embodies clauses respecting the duties on tea, tobacco, beer, and spirits, also with stamps, death-duties, income-tax, and the National Debt. The text of the stamps clause is as follows:—

(1) There shall be charged upon a note (hereinafter called a broker's note) sent by any person carrying on the business of a broker to his principal (except where such principal is acting as broker for a principal resident in the United Kingdom) advising him of the sale or purchase of any goods, wares, or merchandise, the stamp duty following (that is to say):—

If the goods, wares, or merchandise are—	<i>s. d.</i>
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Of the value of 5 <i>l.</i> , and under the value of 100 <i>l.</i> ...	0 1
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Of the value of 10 <i>l.</i> , or upwards 1 0
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(2) The duty on a broker's note may be denoted by an adhesive stamp, and if the duty of one shilling is so denoted it is to be denoted by an adhesive stamp appropriated to a broker's note.

(3) Every adhesive stamp on a broker's note is to be cancelled by the person by whom the note is executed.

(4) Section fifty-three of the Stamp Act, 1891, as extended by subsection one of section seven of the Revenue Act, 1898, shall apply to brokers' notes in the same manner as it applies to the contract-notes therein mentioned, but with the substitution of "goods, wares, or merchandise" for "stock or marketable security," and of "one shilling" for "sixpence," and the omission of the references to "agent" or "agency."

A NEW CURE.—A loyal Cap-Town chemist was "prescribing" for a neighbouring lady's sore throat. The lady is known to have strong Republican sympathies. "Tell your ma," said the chemist to the lady's little daughter, "to sing 'Rule, Britannia' three times at the top of her voice, and her throat will soon be well."

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: March 15.

NO improvement is perceptible in the drug and chemical markets this week, although there have been more fluctuations in prices than usual. Cod-liver oil is firmer, but demand has not sensibly improved. Opium has advanced in Smyrna, owing to frost and speculative buying. A large arrival of Rio ipecacuanha has flattened the market, and prices declined in auction to-day. Menthol is easier, owing to arrivals; but chamomiles are dearer. Carbolic and German camphor are both lower. Quinine is demoralised. At the London cinchona-auctions on Tuesday there was an average decline of 5 per cent. The following table shows the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes Curacao	Cascarailla	Cannabis indica	Acid, carbolic
Opium	Chamomiles	Lime-juice	Balsam Peru
Soda	Chiretta	Menthol	Camphor (Germ.)
hyposulphite	Cod-liver oil		Ipecacuanha
	Copper sulphate		Quinine
	Ergot of rye		
	Glycerin		
	Lycopodium		
	Oil, lemon		
	Phenacetin (sec. hands)		
	Sarsaparilla		
	Wax (Japan)		

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from March 8 to 14 (both inclusive):—Benzoin, 42; buchu, 33; cannabis indica, 158, (powder) 100; cardamoms, 94; cascara sagrada, 112; castor oil (Ital.), 16, (Fr.) 11; chilhes (E.I.), 138; cinchona (Ceylon), 446; civet (bds.), 2; colocynth, 2; cod-liver oil, 265; crotone-seed, 12; ergot, 4; fenugreek-seed, 100; gentian-power, 5; gum arabic (Aden), 100; gun gamboge, 5; gun olibanum, 53; gum sandarac, 14; honey (Calif.), 12; insect-flowers, 29; ipecacuanha (Rio), 130; lime-juice, 26; menthol, 20; nux vomica, 108; opium, 48; orris, 5; quinine (barrels), 61; rhubarb, 26; sandalwood, 63; sarsaparilla, 4; senna (Tiny.), 297, (Aden) 31; tamarinds (E.I.), 10; tonka beans, 6; turmeric (E.L.), 347; wax, bees' (Ital.), 16, (E.I.) 17, (Ital.) 11.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

The general condition of the heavy-chemical market remains much as lately reported. The all-round demand keeps up well, and values are steadily maintained and show little fluctuation. Stocks for the most part are only moderate.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Bleaching powder and caustic soda in brisk request. Chlorates steady. Yellow prussiate of potash firmer. Hyposulphite of soda dearer at 67. 15s. per ton in 7 to 8 cwt. casks, f.o.b., and 77. 10s. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs.

SULPHATE OF COPPER dearer at 247. 5s., Liverpool 267.

GREEN COPPERAS in steady request at 42s. to 43s. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, for best Lancashire makes. Welsh stands at about 13s. to 14s. per ton, free on rails in bulk.

SATINITE is moving well at 37. 7s. 6d. to 37. 12s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b., in casks.

ZINC SALTS steady at unchanged rates. Sulphate of zinc crystals 77. 12s. 6d. to 77. 15s. per ton. Chloride solution 100° Tw. 77. 10s. per ton. Pure zinc chloride cake 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb.

SATIN WHITE dearer at 57. 5s. to 57. 15s. per ton, free on rails in casks.

PEARL HARDENING unchanged at 37. 5s. to 37. 10s. per ton.

WHITE POWDERED ARSENIC steady at 197. 10s. per ton ex-ship Garston.

LEAD SALTS in fair request at firm rates. Sugar of lead, white, 247. 10s. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow. Sugar of lead, brown, 197. 15s. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow. Nitrate of lead 237. 10s. per ton, less 2½ per cent., Glasgow.

PHOSPHORUS unchanged. Wedges 2s., sticks 2s. 1d. per lb., anorphous 2s. 6d. per lb.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, March 14.

CASTOR OIL.—The position of good seconds Calcutta has become much stronger during the week, in consequence of advices of short shipments during February and March. The spot price is now firm, 3½d. per lb., sellers of parcels at a shade less being cleared out. First-pressure French is firm, at 3½d. to 3½d., and first-pressure Belgian, 3½d. per lb.

CANARY-SEED.—Steady at the recent advance, but the high price has somewhat checked business. Good bright Turkish is held to-day at 33s. to 33s. 6d. per qr.

KOLA-NUTS.—A small parcel, dried W.C.A., sold at 1½d. per lb.

TURPS firm, at 41s. per cwt., but the business is only of moderate proportions.

POTASHES are in steady demand, at 27s. 3d. per cwt.; and pearlashes are held for 33s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Firmly held for 267. per ton.

CHLORATE OF POTASH.—Makers' price is 4½d., but some second-hand holders would shade this price slightly.

HONEY.—Sales are reported of 30 barrels Chilian Pile I. at 25s. 6d. per cwt., Pile III. at 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d., Pile II. at 23s. 6d. to 24s., and a small parcel No Pile at 20s. per cwt.

GUM ACACIA.—The demand at the moment is merely nominal, and the grades offering are held for 67s. 6d. to 75s. The sale is reported of 40 packages Aden sorts at 30s. per cwt.

GLYCERIN.—All the local makers are talking of higher prices in the near future, in consequence of the scarcity of raw materials.

AFRICAN GINGER is very firmly held at 30s. per cwt., after 10 tons were sold at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

BEESWAX.—In good demand still, and 9 sacks of mixed dark and yellow Clilahan have changed hands at 77. 10s. per cwt. Peruvian sold at 77. 5s.

ARROWROOT.—Prime West Indian is held firmly at 44d. per lb., and holders talk of higher prices in the near future.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—There is now no stock in importers' hands, 1s. 5½d. per lb. having been accepted for 3 barrels cloudy Maranham in store.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Small sales of Ceara and Maranham grey have been made at 80s. per cwt. Stocks are strongly held, and in small compass.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, March 13.

There is very little of interest to report from our drug-market this week, business being very quiet indeed, and prices of most articles favour buyers.

BALSAM PERU is dull of sale, at 13m. and 12½m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is quiet; prices were reduced on Monday to 420m. per 100 kilos. for prompt delivery, and 440m. per 100 kilos. for delivery during the next three months.

CASCARA SAGRADA is quiet, at 55m. and 53m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is quiet, and offering cheaper, at 80m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE again shows a firmer tendency to-day, at 400m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPODIUM shows a strong market at advancing prices; 465m. per 100 kilos. has been paid, and 475m. is asked now.

MENTHOL is dull, at 19m. per kilo.

QUININE also dull, at 49m. per kilo.

SFERMACETTI is a little firmer, at 292½m. per 100 kilos.

COD LIVER OIL is quiet, at 65m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

All **ESSENTIAL OILS** are quiet and unchanged.

American Drug Market.

New York, March 6.

Business has quieted down, and is confined almost entirely to jobbing quantities. The general undertone, however, remains firm.

OPIUM continues dull and in weak demand. Case lots can be had at \$3, and jobbing packages at \$3.05 per lb.

QUININE rules quiet, but steady, with quotations unchanged on a basis of 35c. for bulk. Second hands are firmer in their ideas, and do not offer below 34c.

CARBOLIC Acid has further declined, and bulk quantities are obtainable at 25c. per lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA is firmer on the Pacific coast, but supplies on the spot are obtainable at 5c. to 7c., according to age and quantity.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS) is weaker on account of more liberal offerings. Quotations have declined to 55c.

ERGOT is unsettled, and easier in sympathy with primary markets. Packages are obtainable as low as 58c., but 60c. is the general quotation. The decline is generally regarded as of a temporary character due to speculation.

BALSAM PERU has further declined to \$1.42.

CARNAUBA WAX is moving upwards, owing to scarcity and heavy demand. For prime quality 21c. to 25c. is asked, and cheaper grades are obtainable down to 18c.

IPECAC is firmer, and holders are not inclined to shade \$3. A recent decision of the Treasury Department now admits the Cartagena root, provided it is of satisfactory alkaloidal content.

BUCHU.—Short leaves are easier, and obtainable at 26c. to 28c. per lb.

SENNA is in fair supply (sufficient for ordinary requirements), and values are easier. Natural Alexandrian can be bought at 8½c. to 10c., and Timnevelly at 7½c. to 16c., according to quality.

SENEGA.—Western is easier, and obtainable in quantity at 44c. to 46c. per lb.

JALAP is easier, owing to the near arrival of new crop. Holders will sell at 12½c.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Holders are more anxious to sell, but dealers will not pay prices asked. The demand is improving, and values are firm at 90c. for Western, 95c. per lb. for New York, and \$1.15 for bottles.

Oil, WINTERGREEN, is cheaper. Natural oil is obtainable at \$1.75, and small lots as low as \$1.50. Artificial has declined to 55c. per lb.

WAHOO (EUONYMUS).—Root-bark is firm at 20c. Supplies are light.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, March 15, 12.54 P.M.:—Refined camphor in second hands has a firmer tendency. Carnauba wax is also advancing, and lycopodium is firm at 475m. per 100 kilos.

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BERGEN, March 15, 11.5 A.M.:—The weather here continues bad and as a result the cod-fishing shows very poor returns. The catch is put down at 7,021,000, as against 8,309,000 at the corresponding period last year. The yield of unrefined cod-liver oil is estimated at 7,766 barrels, as against 8,435 last year; but the market is firmer, the latest price for refined oil being 65s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen.

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SMYRNA, March 14, 11 A.M.:—Owing to the frost in the interior an advance of 5d. per lb. has taken place on this market. Speculators have also been buying, and a further advance is not unlikely.

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NEW YORK, March 15, 3.23 P.M.:—The condition of the market is tame. Opium is firmer at \$3.08, senna-root is easier at 43c. per lb., while asafetida is advancing, the price varying from 18c. to 26c. per lb. New arrivals of jaborandi are selling at 9c. per lb. Rio ipecacuanha is firm at \$3.10, while ergot is strong at 58c. per lb. Hydrastis canadensis is weak, 55c. per lb. being the latest price; and quinine continues quiet at from 32c. to 37c. per oz.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC about 1d. lower. Crystals are now quoted at 11d. per lb. for 39° to 40° C.; 34° to 35° C., 10½d. Cresylic, 95 per cent. 1s. 6d. Crude, 60 per cent. 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8½d., and 75 per cent. 3s. 3d. per gallon. Detached crystals are worth 1s. to 1s. 0½d. per lb.

ACID, CITRIC AND TARTARIC are both quiet and unchanged.

ACID, SALICYLIC.—It has been decided by the Convention to make no further change, as freer supplies of raw material are now obtainable.

ANISE, STAR.—Quiet. To arrive 83s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. is wanted.

ANNATTO-SEED.—There has been more demand of late, and stocks have been considerably reduced.

CAMPHOR.—Crude is unchanged but firm, at 165s. per cwt. c.i.f. for Chinese, which figure is reported to have

been paid for 200 piculs, near shipment. Importers of Japanese continue to quote extreme figures. There are buyers at 170s. c.i.f. but no sellers. German refined has been reduced 1d. per lb. for immediate shipment, and ½d. for forward delivery, refiners now quoting 1s. 11d. and 2s. respectively in ton lots of belis. In second-hands there are sellers at 1s. 11d. spot. At the drug-auctions 25 cases of Japanese refined camphor, consisting of 1-oz. tablets packed in 1-lb. tin boxes, was held for 1s. 11d. per lb., and another lot, of 45 boxes (each 5 lbs.), English refined sold at 1s. 11d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Quiet. Several parcels of new bark have arrived this week. In auction 20s. was refused for thick quill.

CHAMOMILES.—Stocks are getting into smaller compass and prices are advancing. It is estimated that there are not now more than 20 to 30 bales in first hands on the London market. The spot price is from 92s. 6d. to 95s. per cwt. for fair white Belgian. Importers claim that they cannot replace their present stocks under 97s. 6d.

CHIRETTA.—Second-hand holders now ask 5d. per lb.

CINCHONA.—At the London auctions on Tuesday, the heavy supply of 4,428 packages was offered, of which about 2,000 sold at and after the sale. A large proportion of the offerings consisted of soft Colombian bark of old import, which was practically all bought in. The supplies were considerably in excess of the requirements of the factories; consequently the demand was slow, and prices irregular, an average decline of about 5 per cent. taking place. The unit worked out at rather under 2d. per lb. For cinchonidine-yielding barks very high prices were paid in some instances. The following table shows the quantity offered and sold:—

Packages offered.				
East Indian cinchona	2,076,	of which about	1,200	were sold.
Java cinchona	449	"	120	"
South American cinchona	1,735	"	291	"
Ceylon cinchona	168	"	100	"
			4,428	1,711

The following were the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

			Lbs.
American and Italian factories	...	...	124,472
Mannheim and Amsterdam factories	...	...	96,845
Brunswick factory	...	...	74,068
Frankfort-on-Maine and Stuttgart factories	...	...	24,473
Imperial quinine factory	...	...	17,000
Druggists, &c.	...	...	13,635
Total quantity sold	...	...	350,491
Bought in or withdrawn	...	...	477,641
Total quantity offered	...	...	828,132

The prices paid were as follows:—

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Cartagena (6 bales) broken quill and chips, 4d. per lb., subject. Of Red bark, 113 packages offered and 80 sold, at 4½d. for broken quill. Of Soft Colombian, 853 packages offered and about 200 sold, at 5d. to 5½d. for chips and shavings. Of Cuprea bark, 677 packages offered and 292 sold, at 1½d. to 2½d. per lb. for dull. Bolivian cultivated Calisaya (96 bales) sold at 9½d. for quill and 9½d. to 10½d. for flat.

CEYLON.—Red, natural chips, mixed, 4½d. to 4¾d.; hybrid chips, 3½d.; Ledgeriana chips, 6d.

JAVA.—Ledgeriana chips and shavings, 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.

EAST INDIAN.—Crown chips, renewed, 7½d.; chips and shavings, 3½d. to 7½d.; broken quills and chips, 2½d. to 6d.; root, 3d. to 5d.; branch, 6d. per lb. Red, quill, 5½d.; chips, renewed, 3d. to 3½d.; chips and shavings, 2½d. to 4½d.; broken quill and chips, 3½d. to 4½d.; stem and chips, 3½d. to 5½d.; root, 2½d. to 4½d. Ledgeriana, chips and shavings, 2d. to 6d.; broken quill and chips, 3½d. to 11d.; stem and chips, 5d.; and branch, 1½d. per lb.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending February 19 were 40,939 lbs. From January 1 to February 19 they have been:—

	1900	1899	1898	1897
Lbs. ...	45,286	100,859	107,881	20,823

At the drug-auction Huanoco quill sold at 5½d. to 7d., and good Loxa quill at 1s. 27.; 5 bales flat Calisaya brought 6d. for damaged.

COCAINE.—Makers are firm, but there is no business going on. Two tins of crude alkaloid brand were limited in auction at 15s. per oz.

ERGOT.—The low offers of last week do not now appear to hold good, and 1s. 10d. per lb. e.i.f. is now quoted "without engagement" for Russian; on the spot 2s. to 2s. 3d. is wanted.

GALLS.—Persian green have sold in a small way at 82s. 6d. per cwt.; blues are firmly held for 95s. Buyers are waiting arrivals close at hand. In auction 5 bags Persian sold at 65s. per ewt.

GLYCERIN.—Is very firm owing to the rising tendency of the crude and the good demand. The German market is also firmer.

GUM ARABIC.—In selected so-called insoluble Persian gum small sales have been made up to 27s. per cwt.; worked and unworked "sorts" are neglected. Good picked Trieste gum was limited in auction at 6l. 12s. 6d.

JUNIPER BERRIES are quoted from 7s. 9d. to 9s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot for good sifted quality.

MENTHOL.—An arrival of 20 packages of an outside brand has given the market an easier tendency this week. In auction forced sales were made without reserve from 7s. 9d. to 8s. 1d. for "P. & Co." brand, and Kobayashi at 8s. 2d. to 8s. 3d. These figures can hardly be taken as a criterion of the state of the market, Kobayashi being worth 9s. privately, and outside brands 8s. 6d. per lb.: sales have been made at the latter figure.

MORPHINE.—Quiet; in second-hands, powder is quoted at 4s. 10d. per oz.

NUX VOMICA.—Still scarce. About 100 packages were advertised by a broker for sale this week and afterwards withdrawn. Fair business has been done in Calcutta seed to arrive at higher prices which have not transpired. It is difficult to get a e.i.f. quotation, and Calcutta reports to the effect that there is little or no crop.

OIL, ANISE STAR.—Quiet at 5s. 10½d. to 6s. per lb. spot, according to quality.

OIL, CASSIA.—Quiet at 3s. 11d. per lb. for 80 to 85 per cent., 3s. 9d. for 75 to 80 per cent., and 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d. for 70 to 75 per cent., all spot.

OIL, CASTOR.—Firm. Hull make is quoted at 33s. 10s. per ton in barrels, and 4d. per lb. in cases for best medicinal. Pure firsts is 31s.; seconds, 29s. 10s. per ton in barrels; firsts, 3½d. per lb. in cases; and seconds, 3½d. ex wharf, London. Belgian, first pressing is 31s., and second pressing 28s. 10s. per ton, spot.

Advices from Calcutta, dated February 22, state that sales of about 1,000 cases good seconds for March to June delivery have been made at 1lr. per lb. mafund for shipment to the U.K.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Agents here have raised their prices 5s. per barrel this week, and nominally quote 70s. e.i.f. This advance is not induced by the amount of business done, but rather to the smaller catch so far. There are some buyers here who have not yet filled their requirements, but the demand so far has not been brisk. In auction 25 barrels of finest new oil were bought in nominally at 80s., a bid of 65s. being rejected. Another lot of ten barrels sold at 56s. for old brownish.

BERGEN, March 10.—From my telegram of March 8 it will have been noticed that this year's catch is now about one million less than that of last year. There is, however, still hope of good fishing, as new shoals of smaller and leaner cod are coming forward, and the next week will probably decide the result of this year's cod fishing at Lofoten. This last lot of cod will not, however, yield the same large amount of liver, they being considerably leaner than the previous catch. The market consequently is somewhat firmer, new Lofoten non-congealing oil being quoted today at 63s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports to date are 1,185 barrels, against 1,463 barrels last year.

OIL, ROSE.—Sales of fair quality have been made at 6d. per oz.

OPIUM.—Considerable business has been done this week, about 100 cases being sold to home-buyers at from 9s. to 10s. for good druggists'. Persian is quiet at 12s. 9d. to 13s., and soft shipping at 9s. to 11s.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 9.—During the past fortnight about 40 cases "druggists" have been taken by London and American buyers at the parity of 8s. 1d. or 8s. 2d. per lb., f.o.b. There are no more sellers at these prices, and this is not to be wondered at, seeing that stock of "druggists" here is barely 120 cases. About 90 to 100 cases have been sold in Smyrna, also for the United

States and London, at 8s. 3d. Our latest news from that town states that large holders, who control the bulk of the existing stock of about 1,400 cases, refuse to sell at under 8s. 8d. or 8s. 10d. per lb., f.o.b. We are at length experiencing a spell of wintry weather and the whole country is under snow. Should severe frost follow, another rig up of prices will, without doubt, come in its wake. Notwithstanding the satisfactory position of new crops to day, prices appear fairly reasonable in view of limited supplies all the world over. London evidently is very bare of stock.

ORANGE-PEEL.—This machine-cut peel is worth from 9d. to 10d. per lb., according to colour.

PHENACETIN.—The stocks in second-hands are getting into smaller compass and the market has a firmer tendency. Holders ask from 4s. 7½d. upwards. Makers quote 5s. 3d. for 5-cwt. lots.

POTASH, BICHROMATE.—The bichromate combination having come to an end, the makers now quote potash at 4d. and soda at 3½d. per lb.

QUICKSILVER.—Unchanged, but very firm at 9l. 12s. 6d. per bottle from importers and second-hands.

The importations of quicksilver into London for the three months of each season to February 28 have been as follows:

	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896
Government					
Spanish ...	—	20,000	15,000	10,000	20,688
Other Spanish ...	19	5	98	141	32
Italian	1,320	1,400	1,950	1,600	1,200
Austrian	—	—	—	—	—
Calif., Russ., &c....	—	—	500	—	100
Total bottles ...	1,339	21,405	17,548	11,741	22,020

The exports from London for the three months of each season to February 28 have been:

Bottles	7,091	10,752	7,541	7,399	8,393
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QUININE.—Lower in second-hands. This week the market has been exceptionally quiet, and prices have been more or less nominal. On Wednesday no business whatever was done, the quotation for spot being 1s. 5½d. per oz., and June delivery 1s. 5½d. in second-hands. To-day, in auction, 30 cases, containing 2,900 oz. of Pelletier's brand, sold at 1s. 5d. per oz. P. and G. brand was also limited at this figure, but did not sell. To-day's market is again quiet at 1s. 5d. spot, and June 1s. 5½d. sellers.

SPICES have been quiet this week, and only a small business has been done at steady rates. Nearly all the Cochin *Ginger* at auction on Wednesday was bought in; a few lots of sea-damaged washed rough sold at 30s. 6d. per cwt. for first class. Rough lined Japan was bought in at 26s. per cwt. Jamaica partly sold at slightly under valuations. Zanzibar *Cloves* are quiet at 4½d. per lb. on the spot. Ordinary Penang were bought in at 8d. per lb., and good picked at 10d. per lb. Stems were held for 1 d. per lb. Fine red picked Japan *Chillies* were bought in at 35s. per cwt. East India *Capsicums* were withdrawn at 35s. per cwt. for long red on stalk. *Pimento* steady, part sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. for fair to good clean. *Pepper* has been very quiet, but prices remain firm.

TYMOOL remains scarce at from 10s. to 10s. 6d. per lb. from makers. There is a little to be had in second-hands at about 9s. per lb. Fresh supplies of ajowan-seed have been received on the Continent.

Notice to Exporters.

The London Chamber of Commerce has issued a notice to the effect that too much care cannot be exercised by exporters in connection with the shipment of goods to foreign countries, in most of which the Customs regulations are of a rigorous and intricate nature. Recently, for instance, a manufacturing firm in this country shipped goods to France in old cases originally received from America, and from some of which the letters "U.S.A." had, inadvertently, not been obliterated. Upon arrival at the French port the goods were seized on the ground that they were of American origin and not of English manufacture, which would necessitate the payment of a surtax, and probably of a fine, and it was not until the production of a certificate from the London Chamber of Commerce that the goods were released.

London Drug-auctions.

An extensive assortment of goods was offered to-day by seventeen brokers, and, as will be seen from the table below, only a small proportion found buyers. Aloes, rhubarb, senna, croton-seed, eucalyptus oil, and benzoin were freely offered. The tone was dull. The following indicates the numbers of original packages offered and sold:—

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Azonite (Jap.)	11	0	Gum sandarac	10	0
Albumen	15	0	tragacanth	8	0
Aloes, Curaçoa	130	130	Honey, Jamaica	29	5
Socotrine	40	16	Horehound	10	0
Zanzibar	10	10	Ignatius' beans	10	0
Ambergis	1	0	Ipecacuanha—		
Anethol	1	0	(Cartagena)	60	0
Aniseed, Spanish	30	0	(Rio)	40	9
Anmatto-seed	72	3	Jalap	27	0
Antimony (Jap.)	40	0	Kamala	13	5
Arcea-nuts	30	30	Kino	14	0
Argol (Cape)	18	11	Kola-nuts	101	9
Asphaltum	50	0	Lemon-juice	3	0
Balsam, Copaiuba	6	0	Linseed-juice	84	0
Peru	4	4	Liquorice-powder	5	0
Tolu	10	0	" root	52	0
Benzoin—			Menthol	11	11
Palembang	128	1	Oil, anise, star	2	0
Siam	46	3	cajuput	9	0
Sumatra	129	9	camphor	30	0
Buchu	49	0	caraway	15	0
Calumba	201	20	cassia	5	0
Camphor (English flowers)	45	45	cinnamon (leaf)	2	0
Refined Jap.	32	0	citronella	5	1
Cannella alba	8	3	clove (J.B.H.) lbs.	28	0
Cannabis indica	486	73	cod-liver	35	10
Cardamoms	382	135	eucalyptus	69	39
Native wild	6	6	lemon-grass	38	0
Cascara sagrada	100	0	lime	8	2
Cascarilla	55	0	nutmeg	14	0
Cashew-nuts	1	0	peppermint	21	0
Calabar-beans	5	0	pimento	8	0
Chillies	4	0	terebene (lbs.)	52	0
Cinchona	47	39	Opium (?)	5	0
Coca-leaves	1	0	Orange-peel	57	0
Cocaine (crude)	2	0	Orris-root	7	7
Cologynth	46	0	Pareira brava	6	0
Croton-seed	158	0	Persian berries	25	0
Cubeb	41	0	Rhatany	5	0
Cumin-seed	30	0	Rhubarb	243	43
Cuscus	9	0	Quinine sulphate		
Cuttlefish-bone	14	0	(oz.)	4900	2900
Dill seed	40	0	Sarsaparilla	49	33
Dragon's-blood	50	0	Seammonium	1	1
Fennel-seed	5	0	Scammony-root	28	20
Euphorbitum	4	4	Senna, Alexandrian	69	14
Galls	5	5	Tinnevelly	630	607
Gentian	1	1	Senna-pods	8	0
Gum arabic	15	0	Soya, China	17	0
chicle	6	0	Squills	35	0
elemi	1	0	Strophanthus-seeds	4	0
galbanum	13	0	Tamarinds	32	0
gamboge	2	0	Tonka-beans	17	0
guaiacum	9	6	Turmeric	311	0
mastic	16	0	Turtle (dried)	2	0
myrrh	80	46	Vanilla	11	0

ACONITE-ROOT.—Japanese was held for 28s. per cwt.

ALOES.—A new parcel of Curaçoa in boxes was offered, and sold at firmer rates, fair to good brown liver realising 26s. to 31s. per cwt.; dull ditto, 21s. 6d. to 25s.; and common black capey and gritty, 19s. 6d. to 21s. Four casks of common soft and watery Zanzibar in wine-casks realised 33s. Another lot of 6 cases in skins, soft, brought 34s. Of the 40 kegs Socotrine offered, 16 had been sold privately at 75s. per cwt. No Cape offered.

ANNATO-SEED.—Dull of salt; 1½d. was paid for sea-damaged Madras, and ½d. per lb. for dull West Indian, "without reserve." Good bright seed is worth 2½d. to 3d. per lb.

ARECA-NUTS sold at unchanged rates, 16s. per cwt. being paid for fair Ceylon. Small sales have been made by private treaty at 16s. 6d. per cwt. for fair.

ARCOL.—Good pale Cape sold at 49s. per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Two casks of unfiltered Maranham from Liverpool.

BALSAM PERU sold at 6s. 3d. per lb. "without reserve" for fair thickish.

BENZOIN.—Quiet, at the following rates:—Siam, pea-size almonds in block, brought 8½. 15s. per cwt., and smaller ditto 6l. 15s. Good small to medium free almonds were held for 15l. 10s. Sumatra sold at 8l. 15s. for good seconds, well packed with small to medium almonds; ordinary seconds, 5l. 10s. Common Palembang realised 57s. The best lots, consisting of fair seconds in tins, sold at 94s.

BUCHU-LEAVES.—The tendency is easier, owing to freer offers; 10½d. per lb. was refused for good green round leaf, and a bid of 9d. is to be submitted for a string of this description.

CALUMBA-ROOT.—Fair bright washed root was held for 55s. per cwt.; small to bold natural sorts sold at 28s. per cwt.

CANELLA ALBA.—For rather dull thickish quill 40s. per cwt. was paid. The article is scarce.

CANNABIS INDICA.—The new crop is now arriving freely, as shown by the large quantity offered to-day. For good green tops 4½d. per lb. was paid, and 4d. for small ditto; good green siftings realised 3d. A parcel of 253 bales was withdrawn from the sale, the broker intimating that "there was something up" with this article. Privately good sales have been made at low prices, but the figures paid in auction to-day were slightly firmer.

CARDAMOMS sold at irregular rates. Fine bold pale, of which one case only offered, sold at dearer rates, while medium and common qualities were about steady. Seeds were dearer. The following prices were paid:—Ceylon-Mysore: Fine bold pale long (Gallantine), 4s. 3d.; medium to bold ditto, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 5d.; small to medium ditto, 2s. to 2s. 9d.; medium leanish, 2s. 3d. to 3s. 7d.; small pale, 2s.; medium to bold dull long, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 10d.; small to medium ditto, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d.; small dull, 1s. 6d.; seeds, 2s. to 2s. 3d. Ceylon-Malabar, good medium brown, 1s. 8d.; brown ditto, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; very small, 1s.; shells, 6d.; Native wild Ceylon, 2s. 8d.; a bid of 3s. 2d. was refused for good small to bold.

CASCARILLA.—A new parcel of good bold silvery quill was offered to-day, and 70s. was refused for it.

COLOCYNTH.—Fair pale small to bold Turkey apple was limited at from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Quiet. A case of 2½ cwt. fine London-picked lump of bright colour was held for 20l., a bid of 12l. being refused; 9l. was also refused for dull Singapore lump, and Zanzibar drop was bought in at 75s.; for good thin finger, nicely wrapped, 9l. 15s. was refused.

GENTIAN.—A bale of chumpy and curly root brought 13s. 6d. per cwt. This sale is no criterion as to the prices privately paid, as 14s. per cwt., f.o.b., which is equivalent to 16s., is quoted for good southern root. The available stocks at the shipping ports are very small.

GUM ELEMI.—For a case of good white Manila gum a bid of 110s. was refused.

GUM EUPHORBIUM sold at 16s. per cwt. for a small parcel of genuine sorts from Morocco.

GUM GUAIACUM.—Good glassy block sold at 1s. 4d. per lb. and common drossy block at 2d. per lb.

GUM MYRRH.—A package of fair Aden sorts realised the high figure of 82s. 6d. per cwt., and dark pickings sold at 20s. Good pale small to bold hand-picked sold at 5l. 10s., and a parcel of 25 cases pickings sold at from 10s. to 14s. per cwt., subject to approval.

HONEY.—Jamaica was the only kind offered, and it again sold at full rates, 27s. being paid for fair pale and 25s. 6d. for set ditto.

IPPECACUANHA.—Two consignments of Rio root, totalling 130 bales, have arrived this week, in consequence of which there was a decline of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb. on this description in auction, the first selling broker disposing of 9 bales out of

15 offered at 10s. per lb. for fair to good sound root. The second broker withdrew his 25 bales without attempting to sell. Cartagena was in poor request privately; the cheapest parcel was held for 7s. 6d., but no higher bid than 6s. 6d. was obtainable. Three other parcels were limited at 8s. to 8s. 3d. per lb. Previous to the auctions Cartagena-root had changed hands at 8s. for export to the United States. Later we hear that one broker has cleared the remaining 6 bales of Rio off his catalogue at 10s.

JALAP.—Part of the parcel offered to-day had been sold privately, the remainder was held for 6½d. per lb.

KAMALA.—A parcel, offered without reserve, sold at 3d. to 3½d. per lb. Market privately is neglected; good quality is worth 6d. per lb.

KOLA-NUTS.—For small West African nuts 1½d. per lb. subject was paid, and for slightly mouldy ditto 1¼d. per lb.

LIME-JUICE.—The market privately is easier, there being sellers of good West Indian at 2s. per gal. In auction 3 parcels were offered, and the best lot, consisting of good brown unworked, was bought in at 2s. 6d. per gal. Lemon-juice in pipes was held for 1s. 6d. per gal.

OIL, CAMPHOR.—Japanese refined oil was held for 28s. per cwt.

OIL, CITRONELLA, sold at 11d. per lb. for drums.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending February 19 reached the enormous total of 213,567 lbs., all shipped to London. The following figures show that already this year there has been a substantial increase in the shipments:—

	1900	1899	1898	1897
Jan. 1 to				
Feb. 19	241,059	114,141	131,697	50,345

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—A parcel of 33 cases from Melbourne sold at 9d. to 9½d. per lb., subject.

OIL, LIME.—West Indian distilled sold at 3s. 2d. per lb.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Japanese dementhrolised, Kobayashi brand was held for 3s. 9d. per lb.

ORRIS.—The London market is quiet. Private advices this week quote 48s. to 49s. per cwt., c.i.f., for picked Florentine. In auction to-day 7 bags of sea-damaged (part badly) Florentine root sold "without reserve" at 28s. to 29s. per cwt.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. Good small round Shensi root sold at 2s.; flat Shensi pickings, 1s.; good flat High-dried, 8½d. The following were offered "without reserve," and sold:—Common flat and woody Shensi, no colour, 6½d.; round and flat pickings, 6½d.; bold flat Shensi, mixed with high-dried, 11½d.; good rough round and flat pickings, 9¾d.; medium to bold round, loose and spongy fracture, 7½d. to 9½d.; small, dull coat, grey fracture, 1s. Canton: Common small (t) medium round and stalky, 6½d. to 6¾d. A parcel of medium round, good coat, grey and spongy fracture, no colour, sold at 8d.; flat ditto, 7d.; rough pickings, 7d.

SARSAPARILLA was in good demand to-day at dearer rates. Of genuine grey Jamaica root 13 bales were offered and sold at 1s. 8d. for sound and 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. for sea-damaged. Lima-Jamaica brought full rates, 5 bales selling at 1s. 1d. per lb., and for 4 bales of Guayaquil 1s. 1d. was paid. Much higher prices were paid for red and yellow native Jamaica—namely, from 1s. 1d. down to 10½d., according to quality.

SCAMMONIUM.—Small sales have been made privately at 30s. per lb. for firsts. In auction a box of low quality sold, without reserve, at 5s. 6d. per lb. Twenty bags of root sold at 20s. per cwt.

SENNA.—In spite of the common quality of Tinnevelly leaf offered to-day the auction went off very well, prices being about steady to unchanged, at the following rates:—Tinnevelly, fair green leaf, 3¾d. to 4d.; medium green ditto, 2d. to 2½d.; and common brown and greenish leaf, 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Of Alexandrian leaf of the round description (*Cassia obtusifolia*) 14 bales sold "without reserve" at 3½d. to 3¾d. for yellow and broken.

SKULLS.—Brown Maltese sold at 1½d. per lb.; good fair were held for 2½d.

TAMARINDS.—Fair Antigua realised 10s. per cwt., without reserve.

WAX, BEES'.—There was the usual good demand for Jamaican wax, which practically all sold at from 7l. to 7l. 7s. 6d. per cwt. for good hard red to yellow and brown. Several parcels of East Indian sold, 5l. 15s. being paid for a mixed lot; good brown Zanzibar brought from 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 2s. 6d. according to quality. Australian sold at 5l. 12s. 6d. for common, to 7l. 5s. for good, and a parcel of good brown Mozambique, in pipes or balls, sold at 7l. 7s. 6d.

WAX, JAPANESE.—In auction the limit for good pale squares was 34s. 6d. per cwt. The market privately is firmer, with fair sales at 32s. per cwt., c.i.f., for March-April shipment. On the spot good pale squares are quoted 34s. to 34s. 6d.

Coming Events.

Tuesday, March 20.

Royal Photographic Society, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. Demonstration of the heliogravure process by Mr. J. Hebst.

Wednesday, March 21.

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. Dr. S. Rideal on "The Use and Abuse of Food-preservatives."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch), 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30. Evening meeting. "The Volumetric Estimation of Red-lead" by Mr. J. F. Tocher. "The Ash-percentage of Commercial Cochineal" and "A Simple Method for Valuation of Cochineal and Carmine," by Mr. G. F. Merson.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 7.30 p.m. An exhibition of slides of Rotifera, by Mr. C. F. Rousset.

Western Chemists' Association, Wostbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, W., at 9 p.m. Meeting for discussion of subjects of interest to members.

Thursday, March 22.

Liverpool Chemists' Association, at 7.30 p.m. Annual dinner at the Exchange Station Hotel, Liverpool. Tickets, 5s. each, can be had from Mr. R. C. Cowley, Sandon Terrace, Liverpool.

Leicester Chemists' Social Union. Meeting at the Victoria Coffee-house, Leicester, at 8.30 p.m., to consider the clauses in the Companies Bill as affecting the interests of chemists.

Chemists' Assistants' Association. Cinderella Dance at Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. Tickets can be had from Mr. C. Morley, 3 Bucklersbury, E.C., or Mr. H. H. Robins, 113 Ridley Road, Forest Gate, E.

Optical Society, 7 Crane Court, E.C., at 8 p.m. Mr. Dixey on "Centering Spectacle-lenses."

Friday, March 23.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. "Some Modern Explosives" by Sir Andrew Noble.

Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 9.15 p.m. Final festival.

The exhibition arranged by the National Photographic Record Association is now open at 63 Russell Square, W.C., from 10 to 4. Admission on presentation of visiting-card.

A FIRE occurred on Wednesday on board the P. & O. liner *Bombay*, just returned from the East. In the cargo were 20 cases of menthol, 2,132 bags of pepper, and 100 barrels of cocoanut oil, but it is not yet certain whether they have been destroyed.

THE IONONE PATENT.—Messrs. Fritzsche & Co., of Hamburg, are appealing against the decision by Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy in the matter of Tiemann's ionone patent (No. 8,733, 1892), and on Wednesday the Court of Appeal ordered them to pay 100l. into court as security for costs. Tiemann's side suggested 400l.

MESSRS. CRESSWELL BROTHERS & SCHMITZ'S premises, 1 Red Lion Square, W.C., were burnt out on Thursday afternoon. Twenty fire-engines were soon on the scene, but could only save the adjoining buildings. The firemen are still at work as we go to press. Messrs. Cresswell inform us that the fire will not inconvenience their customers in any way, as they have a large reserve stock at 18 and 19 Red Lion Square and at their wharf.